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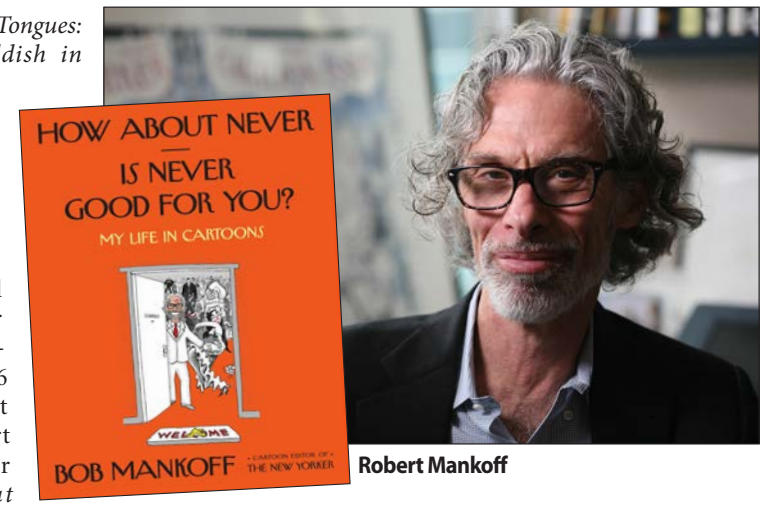
WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

October 2014 Tishrei/Cheshvan 5775 Volume XXXIX Number 2 FREE

New chapter for the 27th Annual Jewish Book Festival

Clara Silver, special to the WJN

The 27th Annual Jewish Book Festival promises to be one of the most enriching and memorable cultural events of the year hosted by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor and co-hosted this year by the Ann Arbor District Library. The Festival will run from Wednesday, November 5, to Sunday, November 16. In addition to the variety of visiting authors and the in-house book and gift store, the Book Festival will host lunch events, music, and film events. The Book Festival will begin with two preview events showcasing both visiting and local scholars from the University of Michigan and its Jean and Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Wednesday, November 5, at 7 p.m., the JCC will host the annual Frankel Scholars night, and Friday, November 7, at noon, the JCC will host the first of many lunch events, showcasing the book *Writing in Tongues: Translating Yiddish in the 20th Century*, by Tikva Frymer-Kensky Collegiate Professor Dr. Anita Norich. Opening night, Saturday, November 8, will include a dinner for Book Festival sponsors at 6 p.m. followed at 8 p.m. by Robert Mankoff, author of *How About Never – Is Never Good for You? My Life in Cartoons*. Mankoff is the long-time editor of the famous cartoon section of the *New Yorker Magazine*. Other featured books will include a wide variety of genres including memoir, journalism, women/trailblazing, sports, humor, politics, history, biography, music, entertainment, Israel, the Holocaust, and more. Featured visiting authors will include Gail Sheehy, Oliver Horovitz, Zieva Konvisser, Ayelet Waldman, Yochi Dreazen, Liel Leibowitz, Barbara Winton, James Grymes, Dori Weinstein, P'ninah and Karl Kanai, Dina Shtull, and Annabelle Gurwitch.



Robert Mankoff

Special events this year will include music nights on Wednesday, November 12, at 7 p.m., featuring *A Broken Hallelujah*, by Liel Leibowitz chronicling the life of musician and composer Leonard Cohen, and Thursday, November 13, at 7 p.m., featuring *Violins of Hope*, by James Grymes, sharing the story of Amnon Weinstein, who preserves not only actual violins that survived the Holocaust, but the stories behind them. Film day,

Continued on page 2

Norm Ornstein to speak at Main Event

David Shtulman, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation's 14th Main Event will take place on Sunday, October 19, at 4 p.m. in the Morris Lawrence Building located at Washtenaw Community College. Event Co-Chairs are Larry and Sue Adler together with Stacey and Neil Weissman.

Featured speaker, Norm Ornstein, has titled his talk, "Coping With Dysfunction: American Politics and Foreign Policy in 2016 and Beyond." Norm Ornstein has long been involved in efforts to reform the political processes. He served as co-director of the AEI-Brookings Election Reform Project and as a senior counselor to the Continuity of Government Commission. He also helped shape the McCain-Feingold laws that reformed the campaign financing system. He has authored several books including, most recently, *It's Even Worse Than it Looks: How the American Constitutional System Collided with the New Politics of Extremism,* together with Tom Mann. Published in 2012, it was named as one of 2012's best books on politics by the *New Yorker* and one of the best books of 2012 by the *Washington Post.* Ornstein is well known for his insightful and entertaining presentations.

Norm Ornstein

The Main Event features a Wine and Hors d'oeuvres Reception beginning at 4 p.m. The formal program will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed at 7 p.m. by a dessert reception. The event is Kosher under Supervision and costs $36 per adult and $18 for high school and college students. A minimum contribution of $100 per family to the Jewish Federation 2015 Annual Campaign is required to attend. Attendees will have the opportunity to make their pledge at the event.

Registration can be done by October 12 online at www.jewishannarbor.org or by phone to Cindy Adams at 677-0100.

Donors of $5,000 or more are invited to a special dinner event with Norm Ornstein on Saturday evening, October 18, hosted by Malcolm and Judy Cohen.

The Jewish Federation also expresses special gratitude to the Ford Motor Company Fund whose support makes this event possible. ■

"Issues for Aging" series continues

Erin Kelly, special to the WJN

Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County has partnered with the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor to become a resource for issues related to aging. The "Issues for Aging" educational series, which is hosted by JFS and co-sponsored by the JCC, started last fall and has already become a valued educational resource to community members. The free educational series features 90-minute presentations from community partners who work with older adults, and are open to the entire community.

The "Issues for Aging" presentations focus on situations that affect older adults as well as well as caregivers. Collaboration with community partners has allowed JFS and the JCC to cover a wide range of aging-related topics. Past "Issues for Aging" topics have included, "Elder Law: An Overview of Legal Issues for Older Adults," "Understanding Depression, Memory Loss and Dementia in Older Adults," "Why Should I Have an Advance Directive?" and "Clutter and Chaos—Understanding Hoarding & Chronic Disorganization."

The next presentation, on October 23, will feature a community panel discussion of older adults and driving. The panel will include a social worker, a geriatric doctor, a member of the law enforcement community, and an employee of the Secretary of State, who will discuss indications that it is no longer safe for an aging individual to drive. Driving is often a point of contention between aging adults and their caregivers; older adults fear their loss of independence, and their caregivers, worry about their aging loved ones' safety. Providing older adult drivers and caregivers with knowledge about safety factors can make the decision process for families easier. The panel discussion will provide a forum for community members to access expert opinions and ask questions that will help families make decisions about driving. For more information or to register, contact Sarah Schneider Hong at 769- 0209 or sarah.hong@jfsannarbor.org. ■

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October speakers at the JCC

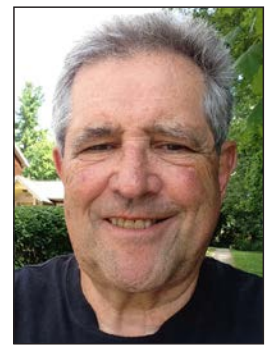
Karen Freedland, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor (JCC) will host two distinguished speakers in October. On October 6, at 7 p.m., Dr. Kate Rosenblum will present, "Early Experience Matters!: Perspectives on the Promotion of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health." In contrast to many commonly held beliefs, infants and very young children are not immune to the impact of stressful or adverse experiences, and in addition, many very young children experience biological and temperamental vulnerabilities that place them at greater risk for emotional and behavioral problems in the earliest years of life. In her presentation, Dr. Rosenblum will provide a non-technical but scientifically and clinically grounded overview of groundbreaking and exciting state-of-the-art science, from the impact of early adverse experiences on brain and social-emotional development, to interventions that work to promote better outcomes for very young children and their families.

Dr. Rosenblum is a clinical and developmental psychologist and holds dual appointments as a clinical associate professor at the University of Michigan's Department of Psychiatry, where she directs the Women and Infants Mental Health Program and co-directs the Infant and Early Childhood Clinic, and is an associate research scientist at the U-M Center for Human Growth and Development. Her research and clinical work focus on relationship-focused interventions to enhance well-being in at-risk families with very young children, for example, families struggling with high levels of adversity associated with poverty and/or parental stress or depression, or young children who have experienced significant disruptions such as military deployments or involvement in the child welfare system.

Dr. Kate Rosenblum

On October 21, at 7 p.m., Dr. Nat Ehrlich will present a summary of research on presidential elections that he has been conducting over the past 20 years, highlighted by the results of a survey conducted just before the presidential election of 2012. His central thesis is that the American voter elects the candidate who seems more trustworthy and convincing. While media coverage of presidential elections centers around party and political issues—the economy and taxes, foreign policy and social issues like same-sex marriage and abortion—Ehrlich's research shows that especially in elections where there is no incumbent running, the public perception of the candidate's personality is more determinative of the result than any combination of non-personal issues. The talk will be followed by an open discussion. Both events take place at the JCC. For more information on these speakers and other cultural arts and education events, contact Karen Freedland at 971-0990 or karenfreedland@jccfed.org. ■


Dr Nat Ehrlich

Book Festival continued from page 1

Sunday, November 9, will commemorate Kristallnacht, with the multiple Academy Award-winning director Malcolm Clarke. Clarke's film, *Prisoner of Paradise,* will be shown at 4 p.m., and *The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life*, which won Clarke the Academy Award for Best Documentary – *Short Subjects*, will be shown at 7 p.m., with a light dinner and conversation with Clarke between films with advance purchase. Also new this year is Story Day, a family event celebrating children's literature, some of the most purchased books each year. Story Day will be held on Sunday, November 16, at 10 a.m., and will feature Gari Stein's *Lil Folks*, a music and movement experience for the whole family; and two featured authors reading their own stories, *Kanoo Zoo* by P'ninah and Karl Kanai, and *Why The Rabbi Played Clarinet in the Sauna* by Dina Shtull.

The Ann Arbor District Library will host two visiting author events at the Downtown Library. Tuesday, November 11, at 7 p.m., Ayelet Waldman will speak about her novel, *Love and Treasure*, which weaves the story of a Jewish American soldier and the Hungarian woman he falls in love with, around the true events of the Hungarian Gold Train in World War II. The final event of the Book Festival on Sunday, November 16, at 7 p.m., promises to be truly memorable as Annabelle Gurwitch speaks about her book *I See You Made an Effort*, a humorous and autobiographical look at the panic of growing older in a youth crazed culture, the ultimate coming-of-middle-age story. Gurwitch's talk will be followed by a dessert reception.

All visiting author events are free and open to the entire community, while events such as the lunches, film day, story day, and closing dessert reception will require tickets that are available for purchase in advance. Sponsors who choose to support the Book Festival at various levels will have the option to accept film day tickets, story day tickets, and lunch tickets as a thank you gift. Those interested in becoming a Book Festival sponsor should contact Karen Freedland, director of Cultural Arts and Education, at 971-0990 or karenfreedland@jccfed.org. More information is available at the JCC website, www.jccannarbor.org. ■

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

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JFS announces Refugee Welcome Packets

Rosemary Frenza Chudnof, special to the WJN

One of the fundamental Jewish principles incorporated in Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County's mission is *hachnasat orchim*, or welcoming the stranger. Now, JFS has announced a new opportunity to make an immediate impact in the community. As the only State Department-certified refugee resettlement agency in the county, JFS has already resettled more than 70 individuals from around the world this year, and the agency expects that number to increase significantly. JFS provides these refugee clients with housing, food, and personal items, as well as ESL education, counseling, and employment assistance—all on a very modest budget.

Starting in September 2014, JFS is offering pre-made "Welcome Packages" of personal items, at different giving levels, for our donors to purchase. 100 percent of donations at the pre-set amounts will go toward JFS's purchase of essential items that individuals and families need, and that will make them feel comforted and welcomed.

"When refugees arrive in the United States, they come with the clothes on their backs and a suitcase," says Shrina Eadeh, director of Resettlement Services at JFS. "Some left in such a hurry that when they arrive they do not have essential needs like toiletries. The Refugee Welcome Packages will have an immediate impact by providing individuals with a renewed sense of dignity."

The items in the Welcome Packages will include basics such as shampoo and toothpaste, as well as laundry supplies, household cleaners, towels, and bedding. Add-on packages are available for baby items, and school supplies for children. Each donor, at any level, will have the opportunity to attach a personal note to their package, welcoming the individual or family to America, and perhaps sharing their own (or their family's) story of immigration. Additionally, like all JFS donations, Welcome Packages may be purchased as a tribute to someone, with notification going to the honoree(s) or their families.

The "Welcome Package" program is based on a suggestion from longtime JFS donor and volunteer Susan Fisher. "After all, all Americans were immigrants once," says Fisher. "This is a simple and easy way for people in the community to provide immediate assistance and comfort to vulnerable individuals and families who have just begun their American journey."

JFS Welcome Packages for refugees are now available at the following donation levels:

- Individual - $36
- Family of Two - $72
- Family of Three - $108
- Family of Four - $144
- Family of Five - $180
- Family of Six - $216
- "Baby Bundle" – including diapers and wipes, lotion and rash cream - $36
- "Back to School" – including essential school supplies for kids - $36

Those interested in donating for the purchase of a Welcome Package, can make their donation to JFS as one usually would, either via phone, mail, or on their website's donation page at https://jfsannarbor.org/support/donate-online/, and specify that the donation be earmarked for a donation for the purchase of a Welcome Package. Donations for the Welcome Packages, like all JFS donations, are tax-deductible. Contact Erin Kelly with questions at 769-0209 or ekelly@jfsannarbor.org. ■

Adult Hebrew classes cosponsored by Beth Israel and TBE

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Beth Israel Congregation and Temple Beth Emeth are excited to again offer classes for adult learners at all levels. These classes are open to all, regardless of synagogue affiliation.

Three tracks of Hebrew are offered: courses for beginners, courses that focus on conversational Hebrew, and courses which focus on biblical Hebrew. Though the 12-week Fall Hebrew sessions began the week of September 28, it is not too late to register for the Fall courses. Tuition for each semester is $180 for members of TBE or BIC, and $200 for non-members. Contact Beth Israel Education Department at 769-2041 or birsassist@bethisrael-aa.org); or Temple Beth Emeth at 665-4744 or aostfield@templebethemeth.orgStudents who are unsure of their level should call either institution for assistance in determining the appropriate class.

The adult classes are taught by two veteran Hebrew instructors, Malli Holoshitz and Pauli Weizman. Holoshitz is a native Israeli who has taught Hebrew for many years; she is noted for her lively and animated teaching style. She earned a Ph.D. in education from the University of Michigan, and serves as the head of the Hebrew Department at the Frankel Jewish Academy of Metro Detroit. Holoshitz has taught at the School of Education at Eastern Michigan University, as well as at the University of Michigan, where she received an "Excellence in Education" award.

Malli Holozhitz

Pauli Weizman

Weizman has been teaching Hebrew at the University of Michigan since 1987, and is the proud recipient of an "Excellence in Education" award by the Department of Near Eastern Studies. She is a native Israeli and has earned two master's degrees—one in Teaching English as a Second Language and the other in social work; she also has a bachelor's degree in Hebrew Linguistics.

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THE ANN ARBOR יידיש YIDDISH FESTIVAL

October 28 – November 2

A colorful celebration of language, literature, film, culture, and music.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

11:00 am
Chuck Newman – Adult Show and Tell
Location: JCC, Newman Lounge
Cost: No Charge. *No registration needed.*

Noon
Yiddishn Tam (Jewish Taste) Lunch
Location: JCC, Newman Lounge
Cost: $8 per person. *Please call (734) 971-0990 to register.*

12:30 pm
Yiddish Readers Circle – *Vos iz dos?*
Location: JCC, Newman Lounge
Cost: No Charge. *No registration needed.*

7:00 pm
Film: *Grine Felder* ("Green Fields")
with Special Guest Speaker Maya Barzilai
Location: JCC, Newman Lounge
Cost: $5 per person. *Please call (734) 971-0990 to register.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

7:00 pm
The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies is proud to present:
Film: "The Last Klezmer: The Life and Music of Leopold Kozlowski"
with Special Guest Speaker: the Filmmaker, Yale Strom
Location: UMMA Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor
Cost: Free. *No registration required.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

Noon
Lunch: Tasty Traditional Fare – *Ess Gezunterhait!*
Location: JCC, Newman Lounge
Cost: *Noon lunch - $8 per person. Please call (734) 971-0990 to register.*

12:30 pm
Chaverim B'Shirim Concert – Excerpts from Itzik Manger's *Di Megile*
Cost: No charge. No registration needed.

7:00 pm
Film: "Yidl Mitn Fidl"
with Special Guest Speaker Jeff Veidlinger
Location: JCC, Newman Lounge
Cost: $5 per person. *Please call (734) 971-0990 to register.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

7:00 pm
Eastern European Shabbat Dinner by Chef Cari Kosher Catering
Location: Beth Israel Congregation
Cost: $18.00 per person. *Please call (734) 665-9897 to register.*
Please Note: You must pay and RSVP in advance. There is no cost for the lecture. If you are not attending the dinner, please come to Beth Israel at 8:00.

8:15 pm
Special Guest Speaker: Samuel Norich – *Yiddish 'With A Complete Faith'*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

9:30 am
Shabbat Morning Services/ Presentation by Special Guest Speaker
Anita Norich – *Yiddish Literature and the Week's Parsha*
Location: Beth Israel Congregation

L'Chayim! Celebrating a milestone? Bring your friends and family to this leybedike lollapalooza-music, dancing and a great time!

MAXWELL STREET KLEZMER BAND
with opening act Detroit's Kidz Klez

6:45 – Doors Open; Concert and Dance Party begins at 7:30 pm
Location: Eastern Michigan University, Student Center, Main Ballroom
Cost: $18 per adult, $5 per student.
Please visit www.jewishannarbor.org to purchase tickets.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

10:00 – 11:30 am
Adult Workshop with Maxwell Street Klezmer
Location: JCC, Newman Lounge
Please email Cindy Adams at cindy@jewishannarbor.org to register.

5:30 pm
Kugel Cookoff and Dinner
To register for the contest, contact Hillary Handwerger at 734-662-0154.
Location: Temple Beth Emeth Social Hall
Cost: $18 per person, $12 per child 12 and under.
Register at http://bit.ly/1zncumY.
Please note, you must RSVP by October 30 and pay in advance.

Presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor.
For full details, please see the Jewish Federation website at www.jewishannarbor.org.

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JHSM October events

Staff writer

This month, the Historical Society of Michigan will co-sponsor of two lectures by the Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives at Temple Beth El, Bloomfield Hills.

Rewriting History: The Recovery of Nazi Looted Art

The first lecture will be held Tuesday, October 7, at 7 p.m. The Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives at Temple Beth El will present the Annual Mary Einstein Shapero Memorial Lecture: "Rewriting History: The Recovery of Nazi Looted Art." Howard N. Spiegler, a New York attorney who is co-chair of Herrick, Feinstein's International Art Law Group, will discuss the litigation he has brought on behalf of foreign governments and heirs of Holocaust victims to recover stolen artwork and other cultural property. Spiegler has been involved in numerous cases, including the recent settlement brought on behalf of the estate of Leah Bondi Jaray to recover a Schiele painting confiscated by a Nazi agent in the 1930s. The lecture and afterglow are sponsored by the Honorable Walter Shapero.

History on the Headstones

The Jewish History Detectives Lecture: "History on the Headstones" will be presented on Tuesday, October 14, at 7 p.m. Lafayette Cemetery was Detroit's first Jewish burial grounds, purchased by members of Temple Bet (Beth) El in 1851. The stories of those who have been interred at this historic cemetery, both Bet El members and others, will be the subject of a multi-media presentation and discussion led by Archivist Jan Durecki. Using the latest digital research technology combined with the headstone inscriptions, Durecki has been able to uncover the life stories of Detroit's early Jewish community.

Both of these lectures are free and open to the public. A reservation is requested. RSVP to franklinarchives@tbeonline.org or call (248) 865-0628. ■

Tour of Southwest and Downriver Detroit

A historical tour of the Jewish communities of Southwest Detroit and the Downriver Cities, with a Lunch n' Learn presentation, will take place on Sunday, October 19, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. The bus will depart from Congregation Shaarey Zedek, in Southfield.

From the Detroit neighborhoods of Corktown and Delray to the downriver cities of River Rouge, Ecorse, Wyandotte and Trenton, the tour will explore the communities where a number of Polish- and Hungarian-speaking Jews found economic opportunities as factory workers, peddlers, merchants and doctors; and where many in the Downriver communities found entrepreneurial opportunity as business owners.

JHSM docents and guest speakers from these communities will share stories of the lives and accomplishments of the Downriver Jews—Jews who created communities and community organizations including synagogues, religious schools, fraternal and social organizations. In addition, the group will hear about current efforts to continue a Jewish presence in this part of metropolitan Detroit.

Stops will include a visit to Congregation Beth Isaac, in Trenton, the only synagogue in the downriver Detroit area, and a luncheon and guest speaker presentation at Trenton's historic TV's Grand Event hotel and restaurant. This elegant hotel was built in 1895 and has been carefully restored and preserved by restaurant owners Victor and Tracey Stroia. For registration information, call (248) 432-5517. ■

New TBE Seminars: "Beyond the Pentateuch: The Rest of the Hebrew Bible"

Leonore Gerstein, special to the WJN

Temple Beth Emeth invites all interested members of the Jewish community to attend a series of five adult education seminars on the post-Pentateuch books of the Hebrew Bible, collectively entitled "Prophets and Writings." These works of prose and verse have many types and purposes, and the sources of the Haftarah readings are less familiar than the weekly Torah portions. Discussions will be non-theological, with leaders presenting the findings of archeology, literature/linguistics, ethnography, and history. An open discussion will follow each scholar's introductory talk.

The first class is devoted to Isaiah I (chapters 1-40) and will be led by Rabbi Robert Levy. It will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., at TBE. While the sessions are open to all who wish to drop in, preregistration is recommended to those who want to read the focus text before each session (texts to be sent electronically to registrants). Dr. Lisbeth Fried will lead a session on Amos, December 4, and Dr. Philip Schmitz will discuss Phoenician prophecy in relation to the Hebrew prophets on January 15. Look for additional information on these sessions in future editions of the *Washtenaw Jewish News*.

To learn more and to preregister, contact Leonore Gerstein at lbmgerst@gmail.com or 930-1673.

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TWO DIFFERENT PROGRAMS!

San Francisco Symphony

Michael Tilson Thomas, music director and conductor
Gil Shaham, violin (Friday)
UMS Choral Union (Friday)
Thursday, November 13, 7:30 pm
Friday, November 14, 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM (THURSDAY 11/13)

Mahler — Symphony No. 7 ("Song of the Night")

PROGRAM (FRIDAY 11/14)

Liszt — Mephisto Waltz No. 1
Prokofiev — Violin Concerto No. 2 in g minor, Op. 63
Ravel — Daphnis et Chloé (complete)

A Prelude Dinner precedes the Thursday performance.
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Jewish Women's Circle: Soup in the Sukkah

Mae Sander, special to the WJN

"Soup in the Sukkah," the second Jewish Women's Circle event of the year, will take place Monday, October 13, at 7 p.m., in celebration of Sukkot, which lasts from the evening of October 8 through October 15.

"Soup is a perfect dish for Sukkot," says Esther Goldstein, Jewish Women's Circle organizer. "We all enjoy the warmth of soup while eating outdoors in the sukkah. Enjoying hot soup helps to unify a group of people—it's especially good for Sukkot, the holiday of unity. The walls of the sukkah, our temporary home, bring us all together, as we eat all our meals there."

The featured activity of the evening will be to make several variations on simple vegetarian soups—and then to enjoy eating them. Some of the favorites of past years have been Tomato-Cabbage Soup, Savory Vegetable Soup, and a Fall Medley Soup that is never the same twice.

"Soup in the Sukkah" will be held in the sukkah at Esther Goldstein's home. A donation of $10 is requested. Spaces are limited. To sign up for this meeting and to receive future invitations from the Jewish Women's Circle, join the Jewish Women's Circle Facebook group. The Jewish Women's Circle provides an opportunity for Jewish women to meet new friends, socialize, and learn about a variety of issues. It is open to all, no affiliation necessary. ■

Hadassah resale program

Judy Williams, special to the WJN

An ongoing Ann Arbor Hadassah fundraiser is its resale program. Throughout the year, Hadassah collects women's clothing and household items and brings them to area consignment shops. Hadassah members will pick up your items at your home and give you a donation slip.

By donating clean, current name-brand women's clothing (clothes for any season are accepted at any time) and household items that are clean and in good condition, you will help Hadassah remain a vibrant organization in the community.

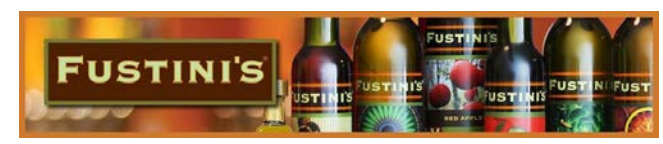
To schedule a pick up appointment for women's clothing, email Judy Williams at naugwarren@aol.com. Women's Clothing needs to be clean, in style and on hangers.

To schedule an appointment for household items, contact Cecy Copeland at 487-4171. Hadassah accepts items such as dishes, glassware, linens, polished metal-ware and small electrical appliances in working order. Hadassah cannot accept telephones, computers or other electronic devices.

Hadassah to hold fall opening meeting at Fustini's

Marci Feinberg, special to the WJN

Ann Arbor Hadassah will host a Fall Get Together at Fustini's Oils & Vinegars, on Tuesday, October 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Fustini's staff will demonstrate techniques for making salad dressings using their olive oils and balsamic vinegars, along with honey, mustards, and fresh herbs. Participants will then have the opportunity to make their own dressings and sample them with greens, vegetables, and fruit.



There is a $10 fee per person for the session, payable at the door. A $10 in-store credit will be given to each person for use on $30 of products purchased that evening.

Fustini's is located in the Kerrytown Shops, 407 N. Fifth Avenue, second floor. Parking is free in the Kerrytown or Farmers' Market lots. Space is limited, so a RSVP is required to Julie Ellis at 665-0439 or juliergellis@gmail.com.

Frankel Center receives $150,000 challenge grant to support Yiddish studies

Yaffa Klugerman, special to the WJN

When Isaac Bashevis Singer accepted the Nobel Prize for Literature for his Yiddish writings in 1978, he uttered a prediction that remains true today. "Yiddish," he said, "has not yet said its last word."

Today, nearly four decades later, a new grant will ensure the study of *mamaloshen* at the University of Michigan for years to come.

The $150,000 challenge grant, created by the Rita Poretsky Memorial Fund, will benefit the Yiddish program at U-M's Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Gifts of any size will be matched dollar for dollar, until the goal is reached, or by January 31, 2019.

"This gift recognizes the enduring importance of Yiddish for future generations of students who seek to understand the Jewish world of Eastern Europe, America, and even Israel," said Deborah Dash Moore, Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of History and director of the Frankel Center. "It will allow the Center to maintain its extraordinary position as the leading academic venue for the study of Yiddish in the United States."

A living language

"Yiddish is a truly international language," noted Anita Norich, who is Tikva Frymer-Kensky Collegiate Professor. "It has never had borders. It is 1,000 years old, and people have been predicting its demise for all that time."

That obviously hasn't happened, she said, and Yiddish culture and literature continue to be popular. Later this month, the Frankel Center will partner with Jewish community organizations to sponsor the Ann Arbor Yiddish Festival. The Tseno Ureno, a collection of folklore and biblical commentary first published in the late 15th century, is the most frequently reprinted Yiddish publication, and has never been out of print. And consider this: even Colin Powell speaks Yiddish. It was the lingua franca in his Bronx neighborhood when he was growing up.

The recognition that Yiddish is an essential, irreplaceable Jewish language has become the cornerstone of the U-M Yiddish program, with faculty and students from several departments, including English, history, political science, Slavic studies, Near Eastern studies, German studies and comparative literature.

The program combines language instruction with cultural immersion. Whether studying modern Yiddish literature, comparative Jewish literatures, Eastern European or American history, Orthodox Judaism, Jewish politics, the labor movement or ethnicity in America or Israel, the program ensures that Yiddish is spoken, read, written and studied.

Graduate students and other scholars meet regularly in classes and workshops to share their new research and insights, Moore said. Undergraduates begin their studies with the alphabet and progress to read Yiddish literature, read and write Yiddish essays, sing Yiddish songs, and study Yiddish folklore.

Students have the opportunity to progress to a high level of fluency using a variety of texts including Yiddish children's literature, folklore, literary and historical texts, music and films. The language is examined in a broad context of Jewish, European and American history, social and political environments, and the culture it produced.

A connection to Judaism

Learning Yiddish is crucial for students interested in learning about Eastern European Jewry, but it has even become a way for some students to express their Jewish identity.

"In the United States, there are two main ways of showing that you are Jewish," explained U-M senior Jamie Nadel. "One is support for Israel, and the other is being religious. I don't really have much of a background in either of those forms of Jewish identities. I think of Yiddish as another direction: a way of showing your Jewishness and connecting to an ancestral identity."

The grant is a fitting tribute to the late Rita Poretsky, who was trained as an engineer, but devoted most of her life to the study of Judaism and artistic expression. Her interest in Yiddish, like her interest in Hebrew, came from a commitment to learning about Jewish languages, cultures, politics and folklore. Before she died tragically at a young age, she established the Rita Poretsky Foundation, dedicated to the promotion of Jewish culture, education, arts and health in the United States and Israel.

For more information or to make a contribution to the Rita Poretsky Memorial Fund, visit http://www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic. ■

JCLP hosts community welcome breakfast

Andrea Siegel, special to WJN

On Friday, September 5, University of Michigan's Jewish Communal Leadership Program (JCLP) hosted its annual Welcome Breakfast at the School of Social Work. It was a time of new beginnings for the program. JCLP's director (on sabbatical this year), Dr. Karla Goldman, was on hand to greet attendees and welcome Dr. Andrea Siegel as acting director. The focus of the breakfast was the theme of vocation; Dr. Siegel gave a presentation connecting the lives of the biblical Abraham and the 18th century mystic Baal Shem Tov to the topic of one's life journey. She asked guests to share their wisdom with JCLP students, as well.

Guests enjoy a laugh as they share stories across cultures and faiths.

For Kate Malekoff, an incoming student who comes to JCLP by way of Pittsburgh, the event helped to put faces to names and highlight themes that had come up during JCLP's orientation in late August. She noted after the event that, "The Welcome Breakfast allowed me the opportunity to gain personal insight into some of the leaders of the Detroit and Ann Arbor Jewish communities. In doing so, it gave me additional perspectives on my goals during my time with JCLP."

Alli Rosen, another incoming student, agreed, recalling of the guests that "many shared that they were 'groomed' to do this work, while others found their way in Jewish life because they 'bloomed,' or had some sort of transformational experience in a Jewish setting." She concluded, "In either case, parents, mentors, teachers, and rabbis all played major roles in many of our stories, underlining the importance of relationships in shaping who you want to be." Community members can expect to interact with Rosen in a programmatic capacity, since she is also beginning her tenure as JCLP's program assistant with responsibilities for outreach.

JCLP students have a busy month ahead of them, with a weekly professional development seminar designed to provide overviews of World Jewry, American Jewry, Israel, and Jewish communities of Metro Detroit. Students will be taking field trips in the region to learn about the varieties of Jewish life and Jewish communal institutions. Professionals from the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel will offer training via the School of Social Work's new interactive web conferencing technologies.

JCLP will be hosting its annual Community Open House for the Sukkot holiday on October 8, from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., at the School of Social Work, 1080 South University Avenue. The public is invited to come by for snacks and to experience the courtyard sukkah. ■

September Food, Land and Justice program

A group from Ann Arbor attended a Food, Land and Justice visit to Detroit to see D-Town Farms and attended a panel at Eastern Market. The group of 30 explored the farm and market and learned about the exciting work being done in Detroit, and met some of the people involved at the grassroots level. The Food Land and Justice program is funded through a grant from the Jewish Federation of Ann Arbor to explore sustainability and food justice and system change through a Jewish lens. Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation in collaboration with Pardes Hannah and a cross-section of Jewish groups and congregations in Ann Arbor will offer programs throughout the Shmita year on these important issues. The next event will be a trip to St. Joes' Farm December 7th to learn about "Farm to Institution". The Food Land and Justice program began last March with a symposium featuring Oran Hesterman of Fair Food Network.

The day's planning committee and panel: Oran Hesterman, Randall Fogelman, Carole Caplan, Idelle Hammond-Sass, Lucinda Kurtz, Eitan Sussman, Rena Basch, Linda Jo Doctor, and Davita Davison

The Food Land and Justice Bus Tour visited D- Town Farm in Detroit, where Malik Yakini explained the rich history of urban agriculture in Detroit

This month at Temple Beth Emeth

Avital Ostfield, special to the WJN

Families with Young Children (FYC): Shabbat Service times every Friday

Fridays, October, 10, 17, and 24
Tot (0–5 year -olds) Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Levy, and Cantor Hayut, 6 p.m.
Dinner for Tot Shabbat, 6:30 p.m.
Popsicle Oneg, 7 p.m.

All of your favorite songs, tot bots, tot team, Cantor Hayut and Rabbi Levy will hold Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m. Join in for macaroni and cheese, fish sticks, applesauce, and salad bar at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is just $5 per person and this year one can buy a punch card ahead of time for a discounted price. Punch cards are available in the TBE office.

Evenings in the Library: Josh Malerman

Sunday, October 26, 6–7:30 p.m.

Evenings in the Library are informal opportunities for learning from authors about their books, and from each other about our interests, expertise, and experiences. These evenings, surrounded by books in the library include an author presentation, plenty of time for questions and discussion, and a chance to purchase the books. There will also be copies to lend, in print, and on the new Kindle e-readers. Since space is limited; RSVP to Clare Kinberg at tbe_library@templebethemeth.org.

Brotherhood Events for October

Sukkot Service/Dinner, Monday, October 6, 6 p.m.
Join in for services and dinner following at TBE.
Brotherhood Shabbat Service, Friday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.

Brotherhood is looking for a few good men to take part in the annual Brotherhood Shabbat Service. RSVP to George Brieloff at gbrieloff@gmail.com. Havdallah will be held at TBE on Saturday night at 6 p.m.

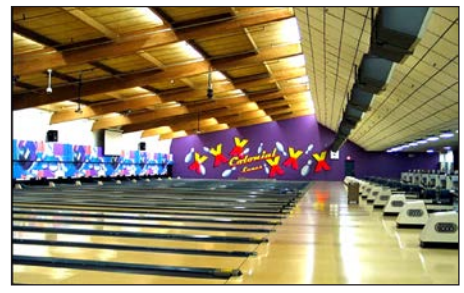
Sukkah Tear-Down, Sunday October 19, 3 p.m.

Help take down the sukkah with the guys. To assist, contact George Brieloff, Brotherhood president, at gbrieloff@gmail.com.

Bowling at Colonial Lanes

Saturday, October 25, 6 p.m.

Join Kadima, TBE's 6th-8th grade youth group, for their fall kick off social event. For more information, contact TBEYouth.Annarbor@gmail.com.



Shalom Gever

Mondays and Wednesdays, October 1, 6, 13, 20, 22, 27, 29; 4:30–8 p.m.

Temple Beth Emeth's Martial Arts for Health, Fitness and Self-defense. Open to grades K–12. Grades K–2 meet from 4:15–5 p.m. , grades 3–5 meet from 5:15–6 or 6:15–7 p.m., grades 6–9 meet from 7:15–8 p.m.., and grades 10–12 meet from 7:15–8 p.m.. Questions? Contact Rabbi Peter Gluck at info@shalomgever.com or SooJi Min at 665-4744.

Women's Torah Study

Mondays, October 13, and 27, 7 p.m.

Join in for in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Weekly, Saturdays, October, 11, 18 and 25; 8:50-9:50 a.m.

Each week, Rabbi Levy leads a session discussing the weekly Torah portion. No experience is necessary, an open mind and questions are always welcome. If there is not bar or bat mitzvah, the hour concludes by saying Kaddish for loved ones.

Beginning Jewish Yoga

This beginners' class will take place on Thursdays at Temple Beth Emeth in the Social Hall, 12–1:15 pm. The semester runs November 6–December 18. The cost is $85. For more information, contact aostfield@templebethemeth.org.

Sangria in the Sukkah

Saturday, October 11, 8 p.m.

Twenties and Thirties (TNT) get together monthly for social and religious programming.

Join TNT in October for Sangria in the Sukkah at the home of Joe and Robin Pollack. Contact aostfield@templebethemeth.org for more information.

[E]met: An Honest Conversation about Death

Monday, October 20, 7 p.m.

Remember the two topics never discussed at the dinner table; sex and death? Come join the first of an ongoing monthly discussion group about death. The purpose is to increase the awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives.

[E]met is a group directed discussion of death with no specific agenda other than to share stories, ideas and experiences. While a decidedly Jewish context will be offered, the discussion is not limited by any one belief.

[E]meth is not a grief support group or a counseling session, but rather an opportunity to grapple with this important part of life within a community of others, And of course, to share a nosh. This is co-facilitated by Brian Ashin, LMSW, CGP and Rabbi Levy. For more information, contact aostfield@templebethemeth.org.

Beyond Pentateuch: The Rest of the Hebrew Bible

Thursday, October 30, 7:30 p.m.

Join in on the first of several rotating scholars on the topics of the five books of the Torah and beyond. Sessions will run October through June (skipping December). For more information, contact Leonore Gerstein, lbmgerst@gmail.com.

Scholar-in-Residence

Friday, October 31–Sunday, November 2

The Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) is sponsoring an Israeli speaker and scholar and residence, Alex Cicelsky, for the Shabbat of October 31-November 2. He will lead weekend adult learning and services, as well as work with teens at Sunday evening at Temple Beth Emeth. Cicelsky is a senior staff member and founder of the Center for Creative Ecology (CfCE) and a founder of Kibbutz Lotan established in 1983 by the URJ and the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism. He represents Lotan and the ecological communities in Israel for the Global Ecovillage Network (GEN). ■

Activities at Beth Israel in October

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Congregation Sukkah Construction

Sunday, October 5, 9 a.m.–noon

Volunteers are needed to set up the congregation sukkah, believed by the congregation to be the largest temporary sukkah in Michigan. This event, similar to a "barn raising," includes a light breakfast of lox and bagels, and is under the direction of Alan Lampear, who designed the sukkah. Participants are asked to bring their electric tools. Men, women, and older teens are welcome. The congregation sukkah will be deconstructed on Sunday, October 19. Lox and bagels will again be served to all volunteers.

Sukkot and Shmini Atzeret Services

Morning Sukkot services: Thursday, October 9 and Friday, October 10, 9:30 a.m.
Morning Shmini Atzeret service: Thursday, October 16, 9:30 a.m.

As part of the congregation's celebration of Sukkot, there will be a kiddush luncheon in the sukkah on the first day of Sukkot, and a kiddush in the sukkah on the second day. The lulav and etrog are used in the ancient ceremony of the lulav and etrog processions, as well as during the Hallel Service on both those days. For other services on these holidays, refer to the calendar at www.bethisrael-aa.org.

New Member Kiddush Luncheon

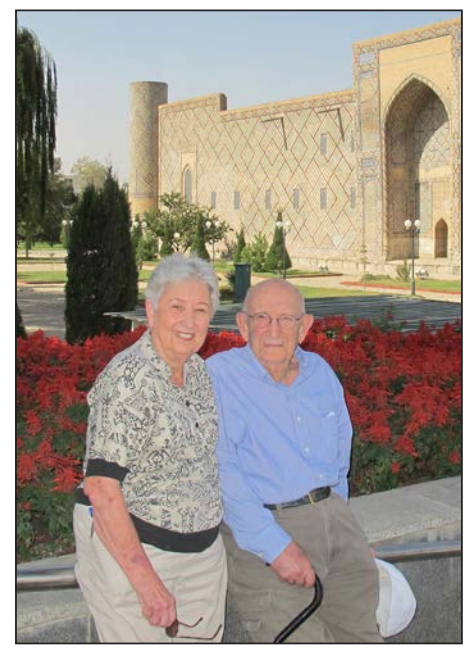
Saturday, October 11, 1 p.m.

New members are welcomed with a group Aliyah to the Torah during Shabbat morning services. The kiddush luncheon which follows is offered in their honor.

Tot Shabbat

Saturdays, October 11 and October 25, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat is a Saturday morning program/service for parents and their children 2–5 years old which includes songs, stories, and prayers. This program is run by Peretz Hirshbein on the 2nd Saturday of the month (with time in the Sukkah this month), and by Jake Kander on the second Saturday of the month. It includes songs, the mysterious "Shabbat Box," a Torah procession with stuffed Torah toys, and a Kiddush for tots. There is no charge for this program.



Helen and David Aminoff

Beth Israel Spotlight Series

Sunday, October 12, 7:30 p.m.

Our Trip to Uzbekistan: In Search of Our Roots: This audio-visual presentation will be delivered by Helen and David Aminoff, both ethnic Bukharians with roots in Uzbekistan. They toured the country in a trip sponsored by the Jewish Historical Seminars of Israel, which focused on the background, history and culture of the Bukharians. Beth Israel's spotlight series features lectures, presentations, and performances that highlight the stories, talents and experiences of its members.

Pizza in the Hut (the Sukkah)

Wednesday, October 15, 6 p.m.

This dairy dinner event is open to all and

continued on next page

Sukkot: past, present and future

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

What did the Jewish people do to deserve the merit of the Mitzvah of Sukkah? The Midrash answers that God gave the Mitzvah of Sukkot to us in the merit of our father Abraham for his hospitality of offering the angels a shady seat under his tree. Not only did he feed them but he also made them feel comfortable on a very hot day after they came in from traveling in the desert. Therefore, the Midrash continues, Abraham gave to the angels the shadow of the tree and in reward for that; we merit sitting in the shade of the Sukkah. Another thing the Rabbis said was that whoever will fulfill the Mitzvah of the Sukkah in this world will be meritorious to sit in the Sukkah under the skin of the Leviathan in Messianic times when Moshiach comes.

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein

So, from this Midrash, we conclude that there are three types of Sukkot. One is the Sukkah of Abraham where the angels enjoyed the shade of the tree. The second type of Sukkah is the type we sit in now. The third type will be covered with the skin of the Leviathan in Moshiach's time.

In explaining the differences between these three Sukkot we also explain the three stages we observe all *mitzvot*. The first stage is the type of *mitzvot* that our ancestors performed before the Torah was given. The second stage is how we observe the *mitzvot* in the present time – after the giving of the Torah. The third stage will be the manner in which we observe *mitzvot* after the Moshiach comes and we are redeemed.

To further differentiate these types of *mitzvot* observance: In the first type as our ancestors did prior to the Torah being given, it shows their greatness in that they volunteered to do the *mitzvot* on their own without being told to do so. This shows the great inner nullification and dedication they had to God. But, on the other hand, since these were *mitzvot* that they did on their own absent the commandment from God, they were missing the special power and energy that is normally given to us by God. Consequently, since the *mitzvot* they performed were considered somewhat limited in that they were only initiated from themselves, the degree of elevation toward God was limited. The Lubavitcher Rebbe OB"M would give an analogy of a person jumping. An individual is limited to a very narrow range of jumping height ('vertical leap' in contemporary sports terminology) by their innate strength and skill. But if someone else, from a much higher location, is helping to pull him or her up as they jump, the heights they can reach are much greater. So our ancestors had this great innate connection to God but because it was only from their own initiative, they also had a great limitation to how far they could take it.

This is expressed in the type of sukkah Abraham had, the first type of sukkah —a tree with shade. A tree's attachment to the Earth is a limitation to the heights it can attain. It is rooted and bound in the physical world. As tall as a tree can be and as great a shade it can cast, it is always limited by its essential connection to the physical Earth. This is the example of *mitzvot* prior to the giving of the Torah—limited by physicality due to the lack of divine assistance to increase elevation.

The *mitzvot* that we do today, after the Torah was given, contain an extra element of divine energy from God that allows us to elevate, beyond the limitation of physicality, so that we can cleave to God at a higher, more spiritual level than before the Torah commandments were given to us. Consequently, our sukkah observance is different from our father Abraham's. The *s'kach* (covering) of our sukkah, the second type of sukkah, must be DEtached from the Earth. This is why we have a loose covering of detached vegetation more than ten handbreadths above the Earth (indicating going beyond the physical limitations and ascending to unlimited heights) on top of the walls of our sukkah. In fact, our sukkah must even be vertically unobstructed, i.e., not under the shade of anything attached to the Earth.

The third type of sukkah will be with the coming of the Messiah, Moshiach. Our level of cleaving to God will be qualitatively different (higher) than our ancestors or our present level. Consequently, even though we presently have the ability to detach ourselves from the physical and cleave to God, (through the study of Torah and doing *mitzvot*) we still feel ourselves as a "self"—a separate entity separate from others and from God. As long as we perceive ourselves as distinctly separate beings we are limited in the ability to truly and fully cleave to God. When Moshiach comes we all will experience a total cleaving to God by having total submission and abnegation of the ego (our sense of self or separateness) as the awareness of God covers the Earth as the waters cover the sea bed, and we all see eye to eye with God. So the sukkah during this future era will be covered with the skin of the Leviathan. The word Leviathan derives from when Leah had her third son, Levi. She made a statement " this time my husband will cleave to me." So the Leviathan represents our dissolving sense of a separate self and rather cleaving to and becoming one with God, which will happen in the Messianic Era. This is what the skin of the Leviathan represents—becoming one with God and losing our perception of our self as an entity separate from God.

The Leviathan is a fish that lives in the sea. There is a rule concerning ritual purity that states that anything in the sea is ritually clean (pure). So when a person is sitting in a sukkah, which is covered by the skin of a Leviathan, it represents being in a ritually pure environment like the sea. A fish in the sea is not separate from its life source. It doesn't perceive itself as separate from the water—it and the water are one. Likewise, when Moshiach comes we will sit in the Leviathan covered Sukkah and we will not perceive ourselves as separate from God—but rather we will be one with God.

However, in order to achieve this high level of cleaving to God, it is incumbent upon us to do God's *mitzvot* at the second level (post-Torah but pre-Messiah). Our Sages tell us that by properly performing the Mitzvah of Sukkah in our days, in the times of Moshiach we will merit the Mitzvah of sitting in a Leviathan covered Sukkah cleaving and being at one with God. May it be soon in our days ■.

Activities at BIC, continued from previous page

honors the principle of eating meals in the Sukkah. $8 per person for ages 4 and up, with no charge, for children under 4. RSVP by Monday, October 13 to office@bethisrael-aa.org.

Simchat Torah and the International Shul of Pancakes

Erev Simchat Torah, Thursday, October 16, 7 p.m.
Simchat Torah, Friday, October 17, Shaharit and Hallel services, 8:30 a.m.
International Shul of Pancakes breakfast, 9:30 a.m.
Torah Service and Hakafot, 10:15 a.m.

Erev Simchat Torah includes a Maariv Service that is followed by the Simchat Torah *Hakafot* (family friendly Torah processionals,) dancing, and snacks.

On Simchat Torah, after the Shaharit and Hallel services, Beth Israel provides a free pancake breakfast in the Social Hall, followed by the *Hakafot*, the Torah processionals, and the rest of the service.

Baby Shabbat

Saturday October 18, 9:30 a.m.

Babies born over the past year are officially welcomed to the congregation during this special ceremony during the Shabbat morning service. The ceremony takes place around 11:30 a.m. The weekly *parasha* (reading from the Hebrew Bible) is from the first chapters of the book of Genesis. Babies are also presented with T-shirts marking the date of their future bar/bat mitzvah year, followed by a kiddush for everyone present, with the name of each baby decorated on the cakes.

Lunch & Learn Series

Wednesdays, October 22 and 29, Noon–1:15 p.m.
Garfunkel Schteingart Activities Center (2010 Washtenaw Avenue)

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin and Rabbi Kim Blumenthal lead informal discussions on current topics. Participants are invited to bring a dairy lunch. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

The Ann Arbor Yiddish Festival at BIC

Friday, October 31–Saturday, November 1

Beth Israel will present three events as part of the Ann Arbor Yiddish Festival. On Friday, October 31, at 7 p.m., Beth Israel will offer an Eastern European Shabbos Meal prepared by Chef Cari Kosher Catering. (($18 per person 11 and up, $15 per child ages 4–10). This will be followed by a lecture at 8 p.m. by Samuel Norich, the current publisher of the *Forverts* and *The Forwards* newspaper. He will speak on "Yiddish with a Complete Faith." One does not have to attend the dinner to hear the presentation by Mr. Norich.

During the Torah reading part of the service on Saturday morning on November 1, which begins at 10:30 a.m., Anita Norich, the Tikva Frymer-Kensky Collegiate Professor at the University of Michigan, will present a dvar torah about Yiddish literature and today's *parsha*.

Samuel Norich was born in Germany in 1947 (in a DP camp) and immigrated to the United States in 1957. After a primary- and secondary-school education in the public schools, he attended Columbia as an undergraduate, and the University of Wisconsin and the Hebrew University as a graduate student. The executive director of YIVO, the Institute for Jewish Research, from 1980–1992, he has served as executive director and publisher of *The Forward* and *The Forverts* since 1997. Samuel Norich is the author of *What Will Bind Us Now: A Report on the Institutional Ties Between Israel and American Jewry*. He is the brother of Anita Norich.

Samuel Norich

Anita Norich, professor of English and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, teaches, lectures, and publishes on a range of topics concerning Yiddish language and literature, modern Jewish culture, Jewish American literature, and Holocaust literature. She is the author of *Discovering Exile: Yiddish and Jewish American Literature in America During the Holocaust* (Stanford, 2007) and *The Homeless Imagination in the Fiction of Israel Joshua Singer* (Indiana University Press, 1991). She co-edited *Jewish Literatures and Cultures: Context and Intertext* (Brown, 2008) and *Gender and Text in Modern Hebrew and Yiddish Literatures* (Harvard and JTS, 1992).

Anita Norich

Both presentations are underwritten by Anita and Samuel Norich in memory of their beloved parents, Isaac Norich and Sara Waksman-Norich.

The Ann Arbor Yiddish Festival is presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, with numerous community sponsors including Beth Israel Congregation. For the latest information about this weekend, visit www.bethisrael-aa.org. ■

Together we do extraordinary things

By David Shtulman, executive director, Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

The spring and summer brought enormous challenges to the global Jewish community. Israel and Hamas engaged in an exchange of rockets that lasted for 50 days. The last time that enemy rockets had reached Tel Aviv was the 1991 Gulf War. This summer rockets from Gaza covered most of Israel including Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and the most populous areas of the country. While the Iron Dome system prevented most rockets from landing in population centers and Israeli casualties from climbing, millions of Israelis could never be far from a bomb shelter and the threats to people in the south of the country were incessant.

David Shtulman

Our community raised over $81,000 in emergency support towards a pool of more than $18 million allocated so far to help Israelis deal with the crisis. Allocations include $5 million for trauma services and psychological counseling, $3.4 million to the 22 hardest hit communities to help non-profit organizations restore a sense of normalcy for their residents, $3 million to bring needed aid and supplies to the homebound and to the elderly unable to leave bomb shelters and over $5 million to transport tens of thousands of children trapped in shelters in the south for respite in the north of the country.

Lost in the attention to the war in Israel was the war in the Ukraine, which is growing more violent and dangerous over time. Ukraine has one of the largest Jewish communities in the world and they have been deeply affected by the situation. Our partner agencies, JDC, the Jewish Agency and ORT have done extraordinary work. JDC and ORT assure that vulnerable members of the community have access to food, medicine and education among other necessities. The Jewish Agency has helped more than 1,200 Jews make Aliyah from Odessa and from Kharkov. More than 1,000 consultations have taken place with Jewish families looking to leave Dnepropetrovsk. With our help, these services will be in place as long as they are needed.

Across Europe and the United States, especially on college campuses, the BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement is spreading. While BDS has few accomplishments to show for its efforts, the public relations aspect has been very damaging to Israel and to the Jewish community. In order to combat the BDS movement, the Jewish Federation movement (JFNA) created the Israel Action Network (IAN) to help local communities address local challenges. In Michigan, IAN assisted us in defending the law suit aiming to place anti-Semitic ads on city buses, during the BDS effort at U-M last spring and in addressing the BDS platform of the Presbyterian General Assembly that was held recently in Detroit.

IAN just released a report from the Mellman Research Group studying arguments that are effective and ineffective in addressing advocates of BDS. I have and can share the entire report with those of you who are interested. Here are a sample of our key assets and liabilities noted in this report.

To our benefit, most people support Israel's right to exist in a two-state solution and also intuitively understand that it is essential to build an environment of economic cooperation and integration, which BDS opposes. Also, there is great skepticism about the effectiveness of BDS to actually help Palestinians.

To our detriment, BDS is generally seen by most people as a legitimate nonviolent response to occupation and is not generally understood to be seeking to harm Israel's security or challenge Israel's right to exist. Israel is seen as the more powerful actor and thus, the actor with greater responsibility. Also, Prime Minister Netanyahu's image as a hardliner and settlement builder reinforces the idea that Israel is not eager for peace and that outside action is necessary.

The report proposes the most effective way to counter the BDS argument is to recognize the reality of Palestinian suffering in an even-handed and open-minded way. Our strongest argument is that the best way to help Palestinians is to encourage constructive engagement between Palestinians and Israelis, investment in the Palestinian economy and the normalization of Palestinian-Israeli relations. These are all activities that BDS opposes.

Here in Ann Arbor, a quick look at our new website (www.jewishannarbor.org) demonstrates that through our allocations to 14 area agencies and programs, and through the seeding of new initiatives by the Jewish Community Impact Fund, you can find the fingerprints of Federation on almost every aspect of Jewish life in Ann Arbor.

The work of Federation is enabled by the support of our community members. None of us can accomplish these things alone, but Together, We Do Extraordinary Things. ■

… a quick look at our new website demonstrates that through our allocations to local agencies and programs, and through the seeding of new initiatives by the Jewish Community Impact Fund, you can find the fingerprints of Federation on almost every aspect of Jewish life in Ann Arbor.

Sukkah consciousness: living with vulnerability

By Noam Zion/JNS.org

The sukkah, even in the Torah, seems to straddle two different ecosystems: the desert and the settled agricultural land. Both are alien to our contemporary urban and suburban lives, but they still offer metaphors for life.

What does the sukkah represent: Eretz Yisrael (the land of Israel) or the desert? An agricultural structure for the harvest in the field, or a nomadic shelter in the desert? The era when Jews were farmers celebrating the end of the harvest season, or when Jews were refugees from Egypt during the Exodus and wandering? The achievement of material prosperity, or the perennial exposure to the vicissitudes of dependence?

Sukkah roofs in Jerusalem

CREDIT: YONINAH VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS.

The Torah weighs in on the side of desert consciousness, reliving transitions, being on the move, and hence, feeling how exposed we are to the shifts in autumn weather and how much we rely on Divine grace. "You shall reside in sukkot for seven days; every citizen of Israel shall reside in sukkot, so that for generations you will [remember and] know that when I took the children of Israel out of Egypt, I settled them in *sukkot* [in the desert before reaching Eretz Yisrael]. I am Adonai your God." (Leviticus 23:22-23) Eating and sleeping in a sukkah without the special consciousness it is designed to provoke misses the point.

What exactly do we need to remember? Rabbi Shmuel ben Meir ("Rashbam"), a grandson of Rashi, wrote in 12th-century France in his commentary on the verses cited above that we must remember what Moshe told us before entering the land of Israel and becoming land owners and farmers: "Remember the whole trip that God took us on through the desert… with all its suffering and hunger when we were dependent on manna [from heaven]. … So that we should know that human life does not depend on bread [that we grow ourselves] alone, but on God's word does human life depend." (Deuteronomy 8:2-3)

This is the reason, Rashbam says, that God set the holiday of Sukkot during the season when we gather the produce of the grain and the grapes, so that we would have to leave our homes, which are overflowing with everything good, and sit in the desert dwellings of landless refugees. Otherwise, we may forget that the land itself is God's gift, and we might think that "my power and the strength of my hands produced for me this great prosperity." (Deuteronomy 8:17)

The late 15th-century Spanish commentator, Isaac ben Moses Arama, who died in exile in Italy two years after the 1492 expulsion of Jews from Spain, transcended historical memory to find in the sukkah a symbol of universal human transience in this world. The sukkah is a temporary residence to remind us that we are all temporary residents on this earth, he said. We go out of our secure houses, *precisely* during the season when the weather turns cold and rainy, and move into a cramped little sukkah, with just enough food for one day, furnished with but a table, lamp, and chair. Thus, we turn ourselves away from concerns with money, possessions, and trading in produce, and learn to live with minimal needs. If we learn to live with less, without luxuries, then we will not feel want.

A new message of the sukkah emerges in the light of expanding world terrorism, marked by events such as the tragic destruction of the Twin Towers in New York City. Every house, no matter how solid, becomes a mere sukkah exposed to the storms of human evil. Life is ephemeral and yet every moment becomes precious. Accumulating material wealth loses its point, but whatever moments of meaning we experience are a mark of divine grace. ■

Noam Zion is a research fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. His numerous publications on Jewish holidays include: A Different Night: The Family Participation Haggadah, A Different Light: The Big Book of Hanukkah, *and* A Day Apart: Shabbat at Home.

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Reflections on Israel

Rabbi Ilana Baden, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor offers teens financial support for Israel travel by three significant programs. The first program is the Ann Arbor-Nahalal Student Exchange program, which is available to community ninth graders. The second program is the Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship, which provides two $2,500 scholarships annually for Ann Arbor area high school students to participate in peer group Israel experiences such as semester, summer or gap year programs. The third program is the Federation Subsidies for Teen Travel to Israel, which provides up to $1,000 for summer, semester and year-long trips.

Below are the reflections of Lianna Bernstein, a recent recipient of the Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship.

The Journey of a Lifetime

by Lianna Bernstein

Over this last summer, thanks to the generosity of the Lichter family, I was able to embark on the journey of a lifetime—Nesiya. The five-week program travels through Israel with a diverse group of both American and Israeli high school students, incorporating in-depth conversations about both cultural and religious Judaism, as well as various art workshops.

The first week was spent doing a camping trip through the Negev Desert in Southern Israel. As the intense sun beat on our backs, we would stop every few water-breaks and write a poem or relate our own experiences to stories of desert treks in theology. Every night, we would sit around the campfire and teach each other songs in Hebrew and English, employing the talents of the many musicians in our group with a flute, cello, and multiple guitars.

At the end of each week, spending Shabbat together was extraordinary. Although every person came from environments where Shabbat was celebrated entirely different from most other people in the group, we managed to find a balance in prayer options, songs, and making our own special traditions.

Roughly halfway through the program, as we were driving up to the Kinneret, my friends' uncle was called up from reserve duty, which would become more and more common as the days went on, though there were even more brothers and cousins of the Israeli participants who were still in active duty. By the time we had spent one night camping on the shores of the Kinneret, both counselors and campers were checking their phones for news updates, and a few of the Israelis whose families lived in affected areas had made multiple trips to the bomb shelter.

Despite the ever-increasing political tension, we were still able to do most of our activities: an educational and fun visit with Druze teenagers our age in the village of Yarkah, a meaningful hike through the historic hillside village of Gamla, and learning about the pioneers in the early 20th Century in Israel. In every place we went to, everyone had the chance to learn a lot about various perspectives and environments, and afterwards we spent a lot of time finding parallels to our modern societies.

As the conflict got worse, we began to have more frequent discussions about safety—both logistical and emotional. Our itinerary was changing on a daily basis, yet the staff still made it possible to run a day camp for children from a youth village in Teveria for a few days and have creative writing workshops in Tzfat.

At a certain point, the program decided it was safe enough for us to go to Jerusalem and we began our political unit. Each day we hosted various speakers who would discuss historical and modern understandings of the political atmosphere in Israel. It was often very difficult for me to listen to the things said by various people, especially as a full military operation was taking place, yet learning how to discuss important topics with people who did not necessarily agree with me was much more rewarding than I expected. There were so many viewpoints that I came to understand much more as we toured through various locations in Jerusalem, and discussing them with people who had become incredibly close friends only made us closer.

As the program came to a close, we spent a week in the Ein Gedi Desert working on our final projects. I ended up making a comic book-like collection about my experiences, while other participants did things ranging from musical arrangements, dances, and collages. After presenting our projects to one another, it was clear that Nesiya had a huge impact on every participant's perspective. ■

Federation recruiting teens for Ann Arbor/Nahalal Student Exchange delegation

Rabbi Ilana Baden, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation's Ann Arbor/Nahalal Community-to-Community committee (C2C) is recruiting ninth graders for the Ann Arbor/Nahalal Student Exchange 2015.

The Ann Arbor/Nahalal Student Exchange Program is a two-part exchange in which ninth grade students from Ann Arbor spend the AAPS February vacation in the Israeli Moshav, Nahalal. The following year, during an Israeli school break, their counterparts from Nahalal will come to Ann Arbor.

An information meeting will be held on Sunday, October 26, at 3 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the program. All ninth graders and their parents are invited to attend.

Student Exchange 2015

Part One of the 2015 Exchange will take place during the Ann Arbor Public School's 2015 February Break. The current plan is to depart on Thursday, February 12 and to return on Sunday, February 22, 2015.

Participants will be hosted by families in Nahalal, and the program will include touring Nahalal and the surrounding region, experiencing the Nahalal Regional High School, interacting with local teens, and visiting Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. In return, students and their families will be asked to serve as hosts for the Nahalal delegation during the 2015 school year (specific dates to be determined), when the Nahalal students will have a similar program of touring, school attendance, and teen interaction.

The Student Exchange is funded by the Federation's Partnership2Gether Community-to-Community allocation. Participants are only responsible for covering the cost of the flight, trip insurance, and pocket money during the trip. Thanks to a generous grant from the Max M. and Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation, some funds are available to assist families who would like to participate, but for whom the full cost is prohibitive.

Student Exchange Experience

Since 2010, 68 Ann Arbor teens have participated in the Student Exchange and have established lifelong friendships. The trip has a significant impact on the teens' connection to Israel and their Israeli peers. Matt Lieberman commented, "This trip strengthened my connection to Israel. It is really fun meeting all the Israelis. If you did not know any of the Ann Arbor kids already, it is really fun getting to know them, too." Zoe Koster Mockeridge added, "This trip was the most fun I have ever had in my life! I am especially glad to be able to call Nahalal my new home."

The friendships forged by the Student Exchange participants do not end abruptly. In addition to maintaining their connections through social media and Skype, it is not uncommon for the Ann Arbor teens to return to Israel and spend time with their friends in Nahalal.

This December, the local teens who participated in last year's trip to Nahalal will host their counterparts in Ann Arbor. The Israeli teens will experience school, the University of Michigan campus, and Jewish life in Ann Arbor.

The Ann Arbor/Nahalal Partnership is an integral part of the Michigan/Central Galilee Partnership2Gether program, led by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit. Cooperative programs are developed with communities in Michigan and those of Nazareth Illit, Migdal Ha'Emek and the Regional Council of Emek Yizrael (Jezreel Valley). Developing a closer relationship with Moshav Nahalal, a village in the Jezreel Valley, has allowed members of both communities to learn from and interact more closely with one another. ■

For information or to register for the Federation's Student Exchange 2015 program, visit www.jewishannarbor.org or contact Rabbi Ilana Baden at 677-0100 or ilana@jewishannarbor.org.

Ann Arbor well-represented at 2014 Maccabi Games

Sharon Newman, special to the WJN

One section of the JCC Maccabi Youth Games, a program of the Jewish Community Centers' Association, were held in Detroit this summer, August 17–22. The delegation from the JCC of Greater Ann Arbor had a wonderful time participating in both the athletic competitions and the ArtsFest. The Maccabi Youth Games, an Olympics-style competition for Jewish teens ages 13–16, are held every summer in locations around the United States.

Ann Arbor was represented on the following teams by:

Baseball ..... Brian Goldsmith and Gabe Rosenberg
Basketball ..... Rachel Pacernick
Hockey: ..... Jackson Roberts
Soccer ..... Daniel Motoc, Michael Motoc, Share, Avi Weingarten and Natan Zekic

ArtsFest participants were:
Dance ..... Lily Gechter
Visual Arts ..... Gabriella Levy

In the added sport of Dodgeball Brian Goldsmith and Natan Zekic came home with gold medals.

The Ann Arbor delegation also included chaperones Ethan Krasnow, delegation head, and Rebecca Chen, who worked with the acting/improv participants for ActsFest.

In addition to participants from many cities across the United States, the Ann Arbor delegation this year met teenagers from Canada, Israel and Mexico.

Days were spent pursuing athletic and creative arts competitions while social activities filled the nights. The very moving opening ceremonies were held at the Fox Theatre in downtown Detroit. The theme of the evening was kindness, the goal being to exhibit and receive kindness amongst the participants. *Rachmones*, the showing of mercy, being kind, showing compassion and empathy, is always in play at the Maccabi Games.

The 2014 Ann Arbor Maccabi Team

Other evenings included a casino night at the Inline Hockey Center at the JCC in West Bloomfield, a host family night with some of the Ann Arbor team having dinner at Chipole, then on to Airtime, a trampoline activity center. Also, on the schedule was a dance party at The Filmore and closing ceremonies, which turned out to be a giant party, back at the Inline Hockey Center at the JCC. It was at this time that the torch was passed on to the cities hosting next summer's games. The 2014 Games will be held August 2–7 in Dallas, Fort Lauderdale and Milwaukee. No decision has been made yet as to which games the Ann Arbor delegation will attend.

The director of the games this summer was Ariella Klein Monson, who is originally from Ann Arbor and participated on the Ann Arbor girls' basketball team in the summers of 1993 and 1994. ■

The value of summer camp

Dalit Kluger, special to the WJN

As the school year starts to wind down, many students are packing for yet another year at a summer camp and look forward to sleeping in any bed but their own.

Summer is a great time to sleep in, go on vacation with family, and work on your tan. It's also a time where many students attend different summer camps. Some of the Pioneer High School students have been attending summer camps for years. For those students it is a chance to make lasting friendships and learn life-long useful skills.

Camp also started out cheap and became more expensive throughout the years. The prices for a full session started at $125 and rose all the way up to $775, because of the tough economy throughout the years. Camp isn't as cheap as it used to be and this has led to summer camps declining in campers each year. Despite it being expensive to send kids to camp, most parents still do it anyway. According to the American Camping Association, eight million kids attend summer camp each year. So even though not as many kids go to camp as they used to, the number is still huge and shows that camp is still a popular way to spend their summer. It gives parents a chance to have some time away from the kids and for the kids some time away from the parents.

"I have a closer connection with my camp friends than my friends at home," said high school sophomore Miriam Hamermesh, who has been going to Camp Young Judaea Midwest since 2006. She says it's because the camp is so compacted and it is a totally different atmosphere than at home.

For Hamermesh, the decision to attend Young Judaea was anything but random. "My brother had gone a couple years before me," and her mom used to work for a camp-affiliated with Young Judaea. "There was a family history," she said.

For kids who go to camp, it is a chance for them to let loose and be themselves, without having to worry about what others think of them. "I can be myself around these kids because the kids are passionate about the same things," junior Alexa Zielinski said. Zielinski has been attending Camp Blue Lake for four summers after her middle-school choir teacher encouraged her to join and she got a big scholarship to go to the camp. "It's never the same group of people but you fall into step with them," she said. You only see the kids once a year and this makes camp so much more special."

As far as school goes, going to camp can only help with the leadership skills that are required. "It shows that the student has maturity and responsibility," Pioneer High School guidance counselor Sara Vance said. There aren't statistics for it as far as if being a counselor gets students into more colleges, but it is definitely highlighted in the recommendation letter. "What the kids learn from summer camp develops their confidence and initiative," Vance says. The students come back and are ready to use their newly developed skills at Pioneer.

Long time campers say that for kids who don't attend summer camps, they are missing out on special events and discussions that could change the rest of their high school experience. For Hamermesh, her camp focuses on leadership skills the older the campers get.

"I have learned how to be a responsible and mature leader that most kids don't get a chance to learn," she said.

Adding to the benefit of going to camp, Vance also says that students who go to camp have more things to offer in their community. "They learn valuable people skills and also the value of giving back," she said. ■

Multi-age classrooms at Hebrew Day School

Hadar Dohn, Special to WJN

The school year began like all other school years; children entered the building with big smiles, high hopes, and some trepidation. Trepidation is certainly to be expected on the first day of any school year. This year, students, teachers and parents prepared for a bigger change than usual and more trepidation may have been expected. After considerable research and investigation, Hebrew Day School combined some of its classes for multi age learning experiences.

The Gan (kindergarten) class now includes young fives, those who no longer meet the local deadline for entering kindergarten. These students comprise the younger set of our multi-age Gan and will remain in the program as veteran *gansters* next year. The first and second grades are combined, as are the third and fourth grade classes. The fifth grade continues to be a single grade classroom. Multi-age classrooms allow HDS to capitalize on the natural continuum of child development by recognizing the varying rates children reach their academic and social milestones. By combining grades, the children have opportunities to work in larger, more flexible and fluid groups at their own levels, while being challenged to advance their skills and understanding.

The teachers have always planned for a range of levels within a given classroom. One of the advantages of the multi-age classroom is that teachers have a wider variety of options for small group, paired or individual learning situations. The curriculum is structured to accommodate extensions, remediation, rotating themes, hands-on experiences and peer learning. Mentoring opportunities naturally exist for all students and help build the kind of confidence and mastery that helps to ensure future success in learning.

In addition to the academic benefits of a multi-age school, there are many social benefits. HDS students are accustomed to playing with children of various ages on the play yard, having buddy opportunities between the grades, and now, expanded social groups within the classrooms.

HDS continues to grow and expand to provide its students the best Jewish educational experience. The move to multi-age classrooms is one of the ways in which the school meets its students' needs. For more information or to schedule a personal tour, contact Ali Reingold, director of admissions and marketing, at admissions@hdsaa.org or call 971-4633. ■

ECC facelift a success

Peretz Hirshbein, special to the WJN

Parents arrived on August 25, 2014, for the usual first day of school at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's (JCC) Early Childhood Center (ECC) to drop their children off in the morning. However, as they turned the corner from the JCC's main hallway into the ECC, both parents and children were amazed by what they saw. Where there had been white cinder block walls and tile floors dating back to the

1950s, families were now walking on a warm earth-toned carpet past smooth, calming, sky blue walls. At the ECC's Open House for Infant and Toddler families, all of the parents in attendance remarked about how much the classrooms felt like being in a home.

This project, involving a renovation of the ECC's public spaces and Infant/Toddler rooms, was driven by the ECC's strategic plan developed over the past two years. The strategic planning committee spent hundreds of hours analyzing what action items would best prepare the JCC's Early Childhood program for future success. In the past decade, a number of major early childhood programs in Ann Arbor have built new facilities, which made it clear to the committee that updating the look and feel of the facility was a top priority. The committee visited a number of well-regarded programs which led to a list of recommended changes to the ECC's physical space to make the space feel more home-like, as well as to make the ECC entrance distinct. Finally, major renovations to the Infant and Toddler spaces were recommended in order to update and upgrade the oldest rooms in the building.

Besides making the ECC feel warm and welcoming to families, the renovations have also had a noticeably moving effect on the staff. Danielle Arreaza, a long-time ECC teacher said, "it is so homelike that working with the infants is much more relaxing." While the improved appearance has impressed both family and staff, the improved physical surroundings are directly improving the quality of care provided to the children because a calm, happy, and comforting environment directly impacts their ability to learn and grow. For more information about applying for a place at the ECC, contact Peretz Hirshbein, director of the Early Childhood Center, at 971-0990 or peretzhirshbein@jccfed.org. ■

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October 2, 12:15 pm
Mikhail Krutikov, Frankel Institute Fellow
Ukrainian Spaces, Jewish Memories, Women's Lives: Local Soviet Past in the Global Post-Soviet Russian Fiction
202 South Thayer Street, Room 2022

October 22, 4 pm
Haya Bar-Itzhak, University of Haifa
Jewish Poland: A Materialized Settlement and a Metaphysical Landscape in Jewish Legends
202 South Thayer Street, Room 2022

October 29, 7 pm
Film and Discussion
with Yale Strom, Filmmaker
The Last Klezmer: The Life and Music of Leopold Kozlowski
UMMA, 525 South State Street, Stern Auditorium

October 8, 12 pm
Michael Meng, Clemson University
Enlightened Memory? On Remembering the Jewish Past in Contemporary Germany and Poland
School of Social Work, 1080 S. University Ave., Room 1636

October 27, 4 pm
Tessa Rajak, University of Reading
The Fourth Book of Maccabees: Greek Philosophy Meets Jewish Law (and Christian Martyrology)
Classics Library, 2175 Angell Hall

November 5, 7-8:30 pm
An Evening with the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies Scholars
JCC Ann Arbor, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive

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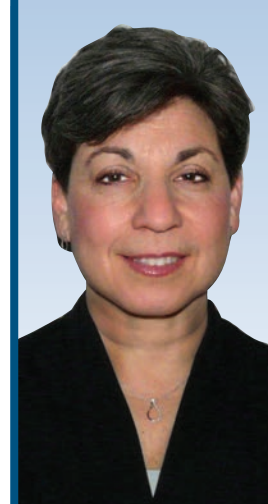

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Apples and Honey event brings community together

On Sunday, September 21, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor hosted their annual family event, Apples and Honey. Community members came together to celebrate the fall holidays and reacquaint themselves with the wide variety of programs and organizations that make up the Washtenaw County Jewish community. Judaica items were available for purchase, as well as Israeli foods and Kosher-baked goods. Games and fun art activities were also part of the festivities.

Photos by Susan Kravitz Ayer

Jewish news year in review: 5774

By Alina Dain Sharon/JNS.org

As Rosh Hashanah approaches and the Jewish calendar turns to 5775, JNS.org takes a look at the biggest Jewish news stories from the past year.

The Israel-Hamas war

The 50-day war between Israel and Hamas dominated headlines around the world throughout this summer. The events leading up to the conflict began with Hamas's June kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenagers—Eyal Yifrach, Gilad Shaar, and Naftali Frenkel—followed by the apparent revenge killing of Palestinian teenager Mohammed Abu Khdeir, which triggered an escalation of Palestinian violence against Israel.

Israelis spent the summer running to bomb shelters due to rocket barrages launched by Hamas from Gaza. Many of the Palestinian rockets proved to have wider reach than ever before, striking central Israel and even as far north as Haifa. Following a rocket's landing near Ben Gurion Airport, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) implemented a controversial ban on flights to and from Israel that lasted 36 hours.

Israel initially responded to the Hamas rockets with airstrikes but eventually launched a ground invasion dubbed Operation Protective Edge, which destroyed more than 30 Hamas terror tunnels that ran underneath the Israel-Gaza border. During the conflict, Israel accepted 11 cease-fire proposals that were all violated by Hamas, until the 12th and final cease-fire was reached on Aug. 26.

Palestinian unity and failed peace talks

Without an agreement in place to extend the U.S.-brokered Israeli-Palestinian peace talks beyond their initial March 28 deadline for a resolution, Israel decided against proceeding with its fourth scheduled release of 26 Palestinian terrorist prisoners. The Palestinian Authority (PA) responded by beginning the process of joining 15 international conventions, violating the peace talks' ban on such unilateral actions.

In April, PA President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah party agreed to form a unity government with Hamas. Thus, Fatah's pact with an organization whose charter vows the destruction of Israel caused the Israeli government to officially pull out of the peace talks.

Anti-Semitism in Europe

In May, four people, including an Israeli couple, were killed in a shooting at the Jewish Museum of Belgium in Brussels. Mehdi Nemmouche, a French national suspected of having tortured hostages held by the Islamic State in Syria, was arrested over the shooting and charged with murder.

European anti-Semitism rose sharply during Israel's Operation Protective Edge. Compared to the same month in 2013, this July saw a 400-percent rise in anti-Semitic incidents in the United Kingdom, according to the Community Security Trust. Anti-Israel Muslim rioters attacked two Paris synagogues, chanting "Death to Jews" and "Hitler was right," while French Jews continued to make aliyah in record numbers.

The rise of Islamic State

The Islamic State terrorist group came to the forefront of Western media attention after seizing control of Iraq's second-largest city, Mosul, in June. Since then, the group has gained notoriety for its brutal persecution of Mideast religious minorities such as Christians and Yazidis. Islamic State also executed American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff, as well as British aid worker David Haines.

After Sotloff's execution, Israel's Foreign Ministry revealed that he was an Israeli citizen. Sotloff made aliyah in 2008. To protect him while he was held captive in Syria, a network of more than 150 of his friends and acquaintances raced to delete information from the Internet that discussed his Jewish and Israeli identity.

Iran nuclear program

In November 2013, the U.S. and the other P5+1 powers reached a six-month interim deal with Iran on its nuclear program despite opposition from Israel, Jewish groups, the U.S. Congress, and Saudi Arabia. In exchange for sanctions relief, Iran promised to dilute its 20-percent-enriched (high grade) uranium stockpiles to 5 percent and was allowed to continue production of uranium enriched up to 3.5 percent while the agreement was in effect. The P5+1 in July agreed to extend the Iran nuclear talks to November 2014.

CREDIT: NANKING2012/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS.

The Iran nuclear program's Arak heavy water reactor

Israel on campus

The boundary between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism on American college campuses became increasingly blurred this year, particularly in relation to the actions of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP). During an orientation event at Temple University in August, a Jewish student was punched in the face by an SJP member and called slurs such as "kike" and "baby killer."

SJP was also behind the growing trend of mock eviction notices placed in student dormitories across the country, including at New York University in April. While the anti-Israel group claims the notices are strictly meant to protest the Israeli "occupation," pro-Israel experts have said the notices cross the line into anti-Semitism through their intimidation of students and delegitimization of the Jewish people's indigenous right to self-determination in their homeland. At Northeastern University, the eviction notices resulted in the suspension of the school's SJP chapter, but the group was later reinstated.

On the faculty side, the membership of the American Studies Association last December voted to endorse a boycott of Israel, while the Modern Language Association (MLA) delegate committee passed a resolution in January condemning Israel for denying the entry of U.S. academics into the West Bank. The resolution, however, was defeated in June in a vote among MLA members.

Turkey-Israel relations

During Israel's Operation Protective Edge, then Turkish prime minister and now President Recep Tayyip Erdogan accused the Jewish state of committing "genocide" and waging "terrorism" against the Palestinians, and protesters attacked the Israeli embassy and consulate in Ankara and Istanbul. Erdogan also said Israel's "barbarism has surpassed even Hitler's" and dismissed the possibility of normalizing relations with Israel.

Russia and Ukraine

Ukrainians took to the streets of Kiev to protest against then President Viktor Yanukovych, in a movement that became known as Euromaidan. Amid the violent protests, several men attacked Israeli teacher Hillel Wertheimer in January after he left a synagogue at the end of Shabbat. Also in January, a yeshiva student from Russia, Dov-Ber Glickman, was attacked after he left a synagogue.

After Yanukovich's ouster, pro-Russian rebels in February began taking over in-

CREDIT: ABED RAHIM KHATIB/FLASH90.

Head of the Hamas government Ismail Haniyeh (right) and senior Fatah official Azzam Al-Ahmed (left) raise their hands together at a news conference that announced a unity agreement between the rival Palestinian factions in Gaza City on April 23, 2014

CREDIT: HADAS PARUSH/FLASH90.

The scene of a gas station in Ashdod that was hit directly by rocket fire from Gaza on the fourth day of Operation Protective Edge, July 11, 2014

frastructure in the Crimean peninsula. In March, Crimea voted to secede from Ukraine and join Russia in a voting process that was deemed illegal by the international community. Around that time, a synagogue in the Crimean city of Simferopol was spray painted with anti-Semitic language.

In April, a flyer bearing the stamps of the self-proclaimed "People's Republic of Donetsk," a pro-Russian separatist group, was distributed to Jews as they left Passover services and called on them to either register as Jewish with authorities or be deported.

Jewish organizations

In January, the Taglit-Birthright Israel program expanded eligibility for its free 10-day trips to Israel for Jewish young adults ages 18-26. Teenagers who went on an educational trip to Israel during high school were previously not eligible for Birthright trips, but can now participate.

In April, member groups of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations voted 22-17 to reject the membership application of the self-labeled "pro-Israel, pro-peace" lobby J Street. In the vote, which was widely seen as the de facto expression of mainstream U.S. Jewry's outlook on J Street, the lobby garnered just half of the 34 votes it needed to gain membership.

Kansas City shootings

In April, the Kansas City area's tight-knit Jewish community was rocked just one day before the beginning of Passover as neo-Nazi gunman Frazier Glenn Miller took the lives of three people in shootings just minutes apart at the Jewish Community Campus and the Village Shalom retirement village.

The prolific Jewish foster mother

Kansas, however, was also the source of feel-good Jewish news. JNS.org profiled Rose Marchick, a foster mother to more than 150 children (and counting) over the last nine years in the city of Olathe. Marchick accepts children who suffer from mental and emotional disorders such as fetal alcohol syndrome or reactive attachment disorder. Following the JNS.org article on Marchick, the local Fox television affiliate also covered her story.

Egypt and Israel find common ground

Former Egyptian defense minister Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, hailed as a hero in Egypt for his role in the ouster of Islamist president and Muslim Brotherhood member Mohamed Morsi, easily won the country's presidential election this May with more than 90 percent of the vote. With El-Sisi in power, Israel and Egypt have a shared interest in cracking down on Islamic terror groups in the Sinai Peninsula and in targeting Hamas, which is an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood.

Syrian civil war rages on

March 15 marked the third anniversary of the beginning of unrest that led to the ongoing Syrian civil war. Israel, which shares a contentious U.N.-patrolled border with Syria in the Golan Heights, faces new threats at that border such as al-Qaeda-affiliated rebel terror groups, as well as old foes like Hezbollah, Iran, and Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

In June, Israeli teenager Mohammad Karaka was killed by an explosion resulting from a mortar shell fired from Syria.

Forty Filipino U.N. peacekeepers escaped after being surrounded by rebels on the Syrian side of the Golan Heights in late August, while 45 Fijian peacekeepers held hostage for two weeks by the al-Nusra Front jihadist group were released in mid-September. The U.N. eventually moved its peacekeeping force from the Syrian side of the Golan to Israel.

Israeli Nobel Prize winners

Last October, two Israeli scientists and one American Jewish scientist shared the Nobel Prize in chemistry for work that made it possible "to map the mysterious ways of chemistry by using computers." The winners were Arieh Warshel, an Israeli-American professor at the University of Southern California; Martin Karplus, a Jewish citizen of the U.S. and Austria who researches at the University of Strasbourg and Harvard University; and Michael Levitt, an American, British, and Israeli citizen who works at the Stanford University School of Medicine. ■

CREDIT: PROVIDED PHOTO.

Rose Marchick (center) has been a foster mother to more than 150 children with severe emotional disorders over the last nine years. Shown here (from left to right): Marchick's adopted daughter Lenora, 20; Tyler, 18; Marchick; Jacob, 10; Lily, 12; husband Clint; and adopted daughter Dasha, 13

As the calendar turns, Netanyahu says Israel 'doing better' despite 'harsher reality'

By Shlomo Cesana, Gonen Ginat, and Amos Regev/JNS.org

In his office, next to photos of his wife and family, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu keeps a portrait of Theodor Herzl.

He was a prophet. A modern prophet, Netanyahu says, further naming Zionist pioneer Ze'ev Jabotinsky, Israel's first prime minister David Ben-Gurion, and Likud party founder and former prime minister Menachem Begin as equally important Zionist leaders.

In an interview with Israel Hayom ahead of Rosh Hashanah, Netanyahu applies those past leaders' experiences to the present day. The main quality a statesman should possess is foresight and subsequently the ability to properly navigate an ever-changing reality, he says.

As the Hebrew calendar turns to the year 5775, the prime minister shares his perspective and strategy, and analyzes the changing realities in the Middle East.

Israel Hayom: Is Israel doing better or worse than it was doing on the eve of Rosh Hashanah last year?

Benjamin Netanyahu: We are doing better while facing a harsher reality. The reality around us is that radical Islam is marching forward on all fronts. This reality poses a challenge for us, as well as for the rest of the world. One of my duties as prime minister is making sure the world understands that our war against these Islamic organizations and states, as well as against the Islamic Republic of Iran, is their war as well.

We are actually doing better now because on one of those fronts Hamas has received a debilitating blow, the likes of which it hasn't received since it seized control of the Gaza Strip. We targeted each of Hamas's capabilities and we set it back years—its rocket stockpiles, by killing 1,000 terrorists, destroying terror tunnels, demolishing terror towers, and crippling infrastructures Hamas spent years building.

I believe we achieved the operation's objective, meaning achieving lasting peace and quiet by re-establishing deterrence via dealing [Hamas] a massive blow. What happens if they try again? They will be dealt a doubly debilitating blow—and they know it.

Israel Hayom: Why didn't Israel vanquish Hamas?

Benjamin Netanyahu: The answer to that question is very complex and it entails a variety of considerations. One of those considerations is a spatial consideration, which cannot be ignored. We have Hamas in the south, al-Qaida and the Nusra Front in the Golan Heights, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and Islamic State in the east; and above all we have Iran, which has abandoned neither its support of some of these terrorist groups, nor its plans to acquire nuclear weapons.

I have decided that the best way to tackle these problems is to seriously undermine Hamas in Gaza, but refrain from getting dragged in there. Otherwise, we would have found ourselves fighting not a 50-day war, but a 500-day one, and the heavy toll would have included more than human lives, but other areas as well. We would have had to face the question of what to do with the seized territory; there would have been an international price to pay—and all of that wouldn't have yielded a much better result.

I think the difference between a good commander and a bad commander, is that a good commander knows how to achieve the declared goals for a lesser price. We would have ended up with the same result, only with a much heavier price, and I don't want to elaborate further.

Israel Hayom: How influential was the IDF in preventing a wider ground operation in Gaza?

Benjamin Netanyahu:: Nothing was prevented. We used combined judgment—mine, the defense minister's, and the chief of staff's, and eventually that of the cabinet members. I won't comment on cabinet meetings, but I can say that within the cabinet there was, most of the time and when it came time to decide, unanimity about the nature of operations.

[Operation Protective Edge] was executed according to an outline and objectives I had set. The first order of business was targeting the terror tunnels in the south. That was a massive aerial strike. Then came

Continued on page 20

CREDIT: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM/POOL/FLASH90.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the Western Wall on January 22, 2013

Netanyahu, continued from page 19

preparing international public opinion, via conversations I had with prominent leaders… I made it clear to them that unless a cease-fire was struck, we would have to launch a ground operation against the tunnels, something that was not acceptable at the time.

When we had completed uncovering the tunnels, I made the decision to pull the military out of [enemy] fire range, because I thought it was pointless to leave the soldiers there, and that the right thing to do was to resume the aerial strikes. The thing that guided me, and proved right, was that at the end of the day, the [aerial] campaign would trump [Hamas's] attrition, because our firepower is greater than theirs. That's also what happened—they agreed to our demand for a cease-fire.

Israel Hayom: With the negotiations resuming in Cairo, both Israel and Hamas have their demands. What is your red line ?

Benjamin Netanyahu: The goal is to make it clear that we are focused solely on two issues: ensuring our security interests, as well as the ability to send humanitarian aid and supplies that would assist in rebuilding the ruins, in favor of Gaza's population. Naturally, we have demands of our own, and we have the necessary tenacity to reject any demands the other side might make that we find unacceptable. We have been doing so successfully.

Israel Hayom: What should Israel do next about the broader threat of radical Islam?

Benjamin Netanyahu: Fight it every way possible, and simultaneously explain the 'ideological' aspect. We don't necessarily have to say that [Iran and Islamic State] are operating from the same command center, but rather that they have a common ideology: 'Who will be the next caliph? Who will rule a world dominated by radical Islam?'

Such a world has no room for Jews, seculars, homosexuals or minorities, and we know where they believe women belong. This is a serious threat because they are sending their tentacles all over the world—the United States, Europe, Australia, Russia, China, and Africa—this is a global threat.

I believe that my role as the prime minister of Israel is to make it clear that the threat we face is one the entire world faces. We understand that, but many worldwide don't understand this threat.

Israel Hayom: There are those within the Likud party who say that leadership cannot grow in your shadow, which is why some have chosen to leave the party. What is your response?

Benjamin Netanyahu: So that's what they say. I can tell you that the public is saying otherwise, as is the impression among Likud members. Party members are very enthused, very supportive. And you know what? Today, after Operation Protective Edge, I have the support and appreciation of those who didn't vote for me. That's the truth I have encountered.

I compare the support today to that of a year ago, be it from the public or within the Likud, and I'm stronger than ever both within my party and among the general public.

Israel Hayom: Does this mean you will be seeking another term in office?

Benjamin Netanyahu: Yes, absolutely.

Israel Hayom: Have disagreements between the U.S. and Israel turned from just disagreements into a real crack in the relationship?

Benjamin Netanyahu: No. I think the relationship between Israel and the United States is based on solid foundations, and at the end of the day, large parts of the American public feel a deep affiliation with Israel. The difference is like night and day compared to the situation in Western Europe. That stems from historical, political, cultural and many other reasons.

There is a deep bond between Israel and the U.S. and every administration subscribes to that. It is a deep connection. Only recently the Senate passed a resolution declaring Israel a major strategic partner, and Congress appropriated $235 million in [defense] aid [to Israel]. These are the markings of a very deep bond.

Israel Hayom: What is your plan regarding Israel's standing in the Middle East?

Benjamin Netanyahu: We're talking about cementing and advancing Israel's power. The changes leading Arab nations have undergone have led them to view Israel not as their traditional enemy, but as a partner against three radical Islamist threats: the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas, al-Qaeda and its offshoots, the likes of Islamic State and the Nusra Front, and the radical Shiites, who are sponsored by Iran and its proxy, Hezbollah.

Can this realization translate into a more open relationship that further promotes a responsible, sober and safe diplomatic process? Only time will tell. It's worth exploring.

Israel Hayom: Are you saying that a new alliance has been formed between Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Israel?

Benjamin Netanyahu: That's taking things a bit far. But a word to the wise: you saw exactly how various [Arab] nations reacted [favorably] when we mounted a forceful response against Hamas and Islamic Jihad.

Israel Hayom: What is your message to the Israeli public for the new year?

Benjamin Netanyahu: We have weathered a challenging year… We've been able to stop the infiltrators' phenomenon from Sinai—rivers of illegal migrants were about to flood the county. That problem has been solved, and we are removing those who have entered Israel illegally. This year alone 6,000 infiltrators were removed. This problem, which preoccupied all of us just a year ago, no longer resonates as loudly.

We have also developed our economy and withstood regional upheavals, the likes of which this region has not seen since the fall of the Ottoman Empire.

I was glad to see the resilience, strength, and bravery our people have demonstrated. Our younger generation, IDF soldiers, they have proven themselves as a wonderful generation, a heroic generation.

I wish all of us a happy new year. A safe year. I will do everything in my power to make it a quiet year as well. ■

This interview was originally published by Israel Hayom, whose English-language content is exclusively distributed by JNS.org.

Cemetery excavations reveal complicated Jamaican Jewish past

By Maayan Jaffe/JNS.org

Marina Delfos is on a mission. Working with a group of people who come to Jamaica each year through Caribbean Volunteer Expeditions and a handful of local volunteers, she is helping to take inventory of the area's Jewish gravestones, trying to make sense of the 360-year-old and oft-forgotten Jamaican Jewish past.

This past March, Delfos struck stone while she was on the Way Back When (Black River Heritage Tour) trip with Allison Morris.

"I knew there had to be a cemetery in [the town of] Black River," said Delfos, who with Morris, a seventh-generation resident of Black River, began inquiring about where the historic Jewish community would have resided there. She asked one elderly man on a bicycle if he knew where they might have resided, and he took the group into the backyard of a neighboring home a few feet away, where there were three Jewish tombstones.

Delfos had to pull back the brush and shift a heavy bed of leaves to read the tombs' inscriptions. But before leaving the backyard, she had photographs of what she assumes is likely just a corner of a once-larger plot. It's common in Jamaica to find homes or other buildings built on Jewish cemeteries—marking island development, on the one hand, and Jewish assimilation, intermarriage, and migration on the other.

While in the 1800s there were as many as 3,000 Jews living in Jamaica, today there are under 400 at the highest count.

Among the Black River graves is a marker belonging to Hyman Cohen. His tomb has an intricate drawing of the hands of a kohen (high priest). The others belong to two young Friedeberg women, presumably a mother and daughter.

"It seems [the Friedebergs] died shortly after arriving on the island, as fever was rampant in Black River in those days, being that the town is located on the edge of mangroves and swamps," explained Delfos.

In January 2015, a new team of volunteers led by New York architect Rachel Frankel will further excavate the Black River cemetery, so it can be measured and inventoried.

The Jamaican Jewish cemetery project started in 2007, a few years after Jamaican Jewish genealogist Ainsley Henriques approached Frankel, who had been documenting Jewish cemeteries in Suriname, about coming to Jamaica to carry out a similar project. Little had been done to protect Jamaica's Jewish history. A series of natural disasters, coupled with rampant crime and political turmoil, had left its Jewish cemeteries in ill-repair.

The project has become a combination of data mining for human stories and literal mining for lost stones. The team has unearthed more than 1,000 gravestones and markers, an outdoor archive of the different cultures that tumble together to make up Jamaican Jewry.

In Jamaica's oldest Jewish cemetery—located in Hunt's Bay, across the harbor from Port Royal—tombs dating back to the mid-1600s have been discovered. The inscriptions there often have a combination of Hebrew, Spanish and/or Portuguese, and English writings. For markers that date later, the Portuguese is forgotten in favor of English.

At Hunt's Bay, Henriques points out several tombstones with carvings of skulls and crossbones, explaining these likely belonged to "licensed maritime terrorists," or the first Jewish pirates. The Jews came to Port Royal in the 1700s because they saw economic opportunity in working for and protecting Port Royal, which was then the seventh largest port in the world. The British made it a maritime base and had "pirates" capturing and attacking boats of gold and silver coming from Central America.

After Port Royal literally collapsed into the sea with the 1692 earthquake, Jews moved farther onto the island into areas like Spanish Town and Kingston, where cemeteries can also be found.

In Falmouth, about two hours from Hunt's Bay, Delfos helps preserve the Jewish cemetery, which contains 113 gravesides and about 80 readable tombstones. The oldest belongs to Isaac Simon, who died in 1815 at age 60.

CREDIT: MAAYAN JAFFE.

Pictured are headstones recovered from lost Jewish cemeteries that were relocated to the front of Jamaica's only active synagogue, Shaare Shalom in Kingston

For the period between 1854 and 1859, there are 21 readable tombstones, and the average age of death is a low 19.8 years. Delfos believes this relates to the Asiatic cholera epidemic that spread through Falmouth at that time.

On average, however, Jewish tombstones reveal that Jews lived longer than many other Jamaicans. Henriques said this was likely because Jews did not imbibe as much as their British counterparts and that they had many children.

Also interesting is that most of the plots in the Falmouth cemetery, and those in the cemetery at Montego Bay, face east. This, explained Henriques, follows the Sephardic custom of facing toward Jerusalem so that when the Messiah comes, the dead will be able to rise from their plots and head to the Holy Land without having to turn around. Yet by 1890, the graves in Falmouth lacked any Hebrew writing.

In Hunt's Bay, the tombstones face where the cemetery gate was likely located, which traditionally served a similar purpose.

Chronicling cemeteries is "repetitive" work, said Elizabeth Lorris Ritter of Washington Heights, N.Y., who has taken part in the Jamaican expeditions for the last three years.

First, the group picks a landmark or a cemetery corner and then records the location of each tomb in relation to that point. Next, they draw an image of each stone, marking any standout features and recording its epitaph. Then, they photograph each one and number them. Finally, they generate a map.

The findings, said Ritter, are "riveting."

"One year, we found this woman's grave and a small, obviously child's grave, directly next to her," she recalled. "And the woman was next to what was likely her husband's grave, and there were some other familial relatives nearby. Then there were these stones of this very small grave, and all of the pieces were broken, and they were sitting on an adult-size grave that didn't correspond to the child's. … We were looking at the stones, and the graves and the names and it was clear the pieces were not where they should be. So we moved the stones of the little child's grave to be on his mommy's. … It was very powerful."

With each new cemetery discovery, many questions are answered. Yet almost as many new questions arise. For example, researchers know that when slavery was abolished in Jamaica in 1838, intermarriage between Jews and emancipated slaves occurred at a rapid rate. Yet there is little record of these non-Jewish wives or offspring in the Jewish cemeteries.

Rachel Frankel said during the volunteers' excavation at Black Rose Corner, a young man descending from the prominent Jewish De Costa family accompanied them. But when they discovered his great-great-great-grandfather's tombstone, his great-great-great-grandmother was not buried alongside him. His great-great-great-grandmother was a concubine of African heritage.

"The children that were buried there with the grandfather, did they consider themselves Jewish when they died? Was [the grandfather] Jewish?" asked Frankel. "There is this whole population of mixed people. Who were they? Where were they buried and how do their lives and their burials compare to the Jewish ones?"

There are also questions about what comes next. While the history is chronicled and the cemeteries cleaned, will they be maintained?

Delfos said it costs around $60 per month to maintain the Falmouth cemetery, and she raises the money, but she struggles to meet the budget month to month. With high levels of unemployment and a high cost of living, the Jamaican government hasn't made the preservation of Jewish cemeteries—or any cemeteries—a national priority.

But Heidi Kaufman, an assistant professor at University of Oregon who twice participated in the Jamaican Jewish cemetery restoration project, is not willing to accept that.

"Cemeteries are not places of death. … [They] are places where writing, history, art, architecture, and landscape work together to narrate stories about the past," Kaufman said. "If we wait to record them, they'll be lost forever." ■

Maayan Jaffe is a Kansas-based freelancer. Reach her at maayanjaffe@icloud.com.

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Midwest premiere of new musical at Two Muses Theatre

Roy Sexton, special to the WJN

"You aren't inventing the wheel, but you are putting in the spokes. And you hope that wheel will carry the show!" observes Los Angeles-based theatrical director Jules Aaron, currently in Metro Detroit to helm Two Muses Theatre's Midwest premiere of the new musical, *At the Bistro Garden*. Written by fellow Angelinos, the book by Deborah Pearl and music/lyrics by David Kole, the show runs from September 26 through October 19.

At the Bistro Garden is a sharply funny and touching look at the lives of three friends from Beverly Hills who lunch weekly at the famous Bistro Garden restaurant, circa 1987. Their friendship keeps them from shattering and helps them get through infidelities, betrayals, a daughter going astray, love lost, and love found. Winner of the 2005 ASCAP Best New Musical award, the show was previously workshopped in L.A.

"The idea came originally from David Kole. He started out with five songs and a clear sense of who these women were. He asked me to sing—I also sing professionally—on the demos. He had no book, so I created the story, and wrote scenes that give the women distinctive voices, while also helping identify where additional songs would be needed. I love that it's about the strength and vulnerability of women—and what's behind the facade that we see—because these women are every woman underneath," explains Pearl, a longtime television writer/producer, whose credits include *Designing Women*. "Over the years, working in television, I learned so much about comic timing—what works and what doesn't. And since I'm a singer as well, I hear the human voice as melody. That's how I write."

Pearl then met Aaron, who was in New York directing a play starring a mutual friend. As all great showbiz stories go, they struck up a conversation, she told him about this new work, and he was interested.

Aaron has deep roots in the Detroit Jewish community. His mother, who, at 95, still lives in Oak Park in the house where he grew up and is an active writer and director herself, was "the marriage broker. She had seen several shows at Two Muses that she liked a lot. She said it would be so nice if I could do a show out here and we could spend some time together. Barbie [Amann Weisserman, one of Two Muses' co-founders] and I spoke about a year ago, and I said let's find something that we both like. Six months later we landed on *Bistro Garden*, and we started specifically to look at schedules. And here we are. It's such a treat to spend this time with my mom and to work with a theatre that is a real up and comer. They produce well. They are very sharp."

PHOTO BY STEVE HILL

(left to right) At the Bistro Garden, BJ (played by Diane Hill) gossips with best friends Abigail (Amy Lauter) and Cheyenne (Carrie Jay Sayer) while the Maitre D (John DeMerell) listens in

Aaron, a Wayne State graduate who also holds a Ph.D. from New York University, isn't the only member of the creative team with ties to Metro Detroit (or, for that matter, with an influential mother). Kole was born and raised in Grosse Pointe where he attended high school, leaving at 18 to tour with Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians, eventually landing in Beverly Hills where he has worked as a film composer in addition to his theatrical work.

For Pearl, though, working on this show has been her introduction to the Wolverine State. "This is my very first trip to Michigan. Detroit is such a creative place. I'm moved by the commitment to the arts here. Everyone in our production is so into it. And talented. And really happy to be working. And they like my material!" Pearl laughs heartily. "It takes a huge amount of work to mount a show. Musicals are a ton of work and an equal amount of fun. That's what I hope people who come to the show will leave with. An evening of fun. At the Bistro Garden is a joyous experience."

Pearl is an active volunteer back home, somehow finding time between all her artistic endeavors to sing a monthly jazz service at her synagogue, perform at high holidays at Cedars Sinai Medical Center, and co-found and direct a collective of professional and non-professional singers called "The National In Choir" who have been entertaining at hospitals and senior centers every December in L.A. for over 30 years. Her Jewish identity is important to her as an artist. She spent years studying Torah with Jewish writers and producers (funded by "Avi Chai") "Art is transformative. The most joyful use of my voice and my writing is in a spiritual context. There's nothing better than lifting people up with your work," she notes. "And everyone here is happy to share in the creative lifting."

Aaron echoes Pearl's enthusiasm for their newfound Michigan friends, "This cast is a really great group of people. They have talent and a wonderful attitude and sense of dedication."

Kole concludes, "What's really great is I'm looking around this rehearsal space and I see all these people—actors, production team, audience—and it started with this little idea I had and now everyone is here taking part in this. It's such an honor. Their lives are being changed by this little idea. It's so gratifying."

Two Muses Theatre, recent recipient of an operational grant from Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) and the NEA, performs in the 150-seat theatre inside Barnes & Noble Booksellers, located at 6800 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield (south of Maple). Performances are September 26–October 19 on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. Advance tickets are available for $23 for adults and $18 for students and senior citizens and are available at the door for an additional $2. Group discounts are also available. Doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance. There is ample free parking and handicap accessibility. For tickets and information, call (248) 850-9919 or visit www.twomusestheatre.org. ■

Founded in November 2011 by Diane Hill and Barbie Amann Weisserman, Two Muses Theatre is a nonprofit, professional theatre dedicated to increasing opportunities for women in theatre. All funds raised from performances and educational workshops go directly into maintaining the theatre and contributing to charitable organizations centered on women and families.

The Penny Seats to present Tom Lehrer revue

JP Hitesman, special to the WJN

The Penny Seats will return to the stage this October with the musical revue *Tomfoolery*, celebrating the words and music of satirist, mathematician, and cult favorite, Tom Lehrer.

Tom Lehrer

The production will also include an opening short—a 5-minute mini-musical called Volcanoes!!—composed by Ann Arbor's Zach London, who cites Lehrer as an early inspiration.

Actress Lauren Sagolla says of the piece, "This show is a guilty pleasure for us. It's pure, brash, silliness, presented with gusto in a bar setting. So many of us remember Tom Lehrer's songs from our childhood. In particular, we recall that feeling of not knowing whether our parents would approve, but presuming the worst. We snuck around, giggling and singing these songs to each other eagerly, reveling in their mischievousness; it's wonderful to celebrate them loudly now, in all their glory."

Lehrer was born in 1928 to a Jewish family and grew up in Manhattan's Upper East Side. His parents were ethnically, but not religiously, Jewish. "More to do with the delicatessen than the synagogue," explained Lehrer in an interview with JTA in 2000. "My brother and I went to Sunday School, but we had Christmas trees, and 'God' was primarily an expletive, usually preceded by 'oh' or 'my' or both." When asked about his religious preference, Lehrer answered, "No. There are obviously many people who prefer one brand of bullshit to another, but I am not among them. On the other hand, I often quote James Taylor's immortal line from *Sweet Baby James*: 'Maybe you can believe it if it helps you to sleep.'"

The show will run on Thursdays, October 2, 9, 16 and 23, at Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 318 South Main Street. The two companies are partnering to offer a dinner theatre-style show, with dinner seatings available starting at 6:30 p.m., and the performances each night at 8 p.m. Audience members can purchase tickets for the dinner-and-show package for $20, or for the show only, for $10. Advance tickets (which are encouraged) are available online at www.pennyseats.org or by phone at 926-5346.

The London Jewish Museum of Art: The museum for everyone

by Joanne Steuer

Of course it was raining. This was London in December. A friend said I could walk to the Ben Uri Museum in St John's Wood from my lodgings in Belsize Park. The wind blew my umbrella inside out. Holding it in front of me as a shield I quick stepped down the Finchley Road dodging splashes from speeding cars. By the time I reached my destination I was soaked, the sun was out-- typical London weather.

The Ben Uri Museum has a number of subtitles, The London Jewish Museum of Art and The Museum for Everyone. The name is ambitious, but the setting is not. The swinging sign in front of a shop front reads Ben Uri Art, Identity, Migration and the sign over the plate glass window does read Ben Uri Gallery and Museum. Somehow, a storefront in a quiet street of shops in a residential neighborhood didn't seem like the place for a museum. I followed the instructions on the door. Ring the bell. A buzzer released the door and I was welcomed into a long narrow room packed with delicious pictures.

The show at that time, "Uproar. The first fifty years of London Group 1920-1963," packed works by Fry, Gaudier-Brzeska, Nash, Hepworth, Moore and Chadwick and many others into the tiny gallery space. There is a single room on ground level and three small rooms in the basement. A mezuzah guards every door. Each room contained art I had never seen before. The gallery was almost empty so there was plenty of room to roam. The art was small in size, the gallery is small, and the impact was very large. Praising the beautifully curated exhibition Brian Sewell, art critic of the London Evening Standard wrote, the museum was "nourishing the cultural life of London with significant exhibitions and scholarship." I was definitely nourished. Equally nourishing are the on line exhibitions, including the five on women artists in the collection.

The Ben Uri Gallery, founded in 1915 in a restaurant in Whitechapel, a section of East London that was the first British home for many European Jews in the early 20th century, was initially organized as a cultural society to show works of British and European artists of Jewish descent. Many of the original artists were first and second generation whose families fled first the Russian pogroms and then the Nazis. These artists contributed to the beginning of British modern art, and produced some of the best.

In 2001, the gallery moved to its current more central (and more affluent) location in St. John's Wood and registered as a museum. Despite the move David Glasser, the current director, calls it "a collection without a home." The current premises are just too small to contain the museum's 1300 plus pieces of art. While most of the art waits in storage outside London, a large part of the collection can be viewed on line. It includes artists from 35 different countries. The largest contingents are from England (100), Germany (60), and Poland (47). Austria and the United States are each represented by 17 artists. Ben Uri is ambitious in its goal to include not only Jewish art and experience, but also the art and experience of the numerous other people who have immigrated to England seeking opportunity or fleeing oppression.

Neighborhood reflections in the window of the Ben Uri Gallery

This theme, of the connectivity of the human experience of migration is carried into the 100 year anniversary exhibit titled "Art, Identity, Migration: 100 Years of Ben Uri in London 1915-2015." From July to December 2015, befitting a centennial celebration, and allowing for more space and possibly a wider audience, the exhibition will be at Somerset House in central London. Familiar names as Chagall, Grosz, Soutine, Bomberg and Auerbach will be represented along with lesser-known artists and archival items. Just as in the Uproar exhibition there will probably be art that is rarely seen. The Centennial will be thought provoking and engaging, worth a visit and easy to do since it is in central London

Back at the store front, from November 2014 to February 2015 the show, titled "Refiguring the Fifties: Joann Eardley, Sheila Fell, Eva Frankfurther, Josef Herman and LS Lowry" will focus on connections between the artists both in their work and in their lives. And during the centennial, continuing the idea of a museum for everyone, the Gallery will have a "Cultural Heritage of Elimu Carnival Band" exhibition. Elimu band is a youth project in London in which members plan, design and make their costumes and choreograph their dances in preparation for Carnival in London. The displays will include costumes and short films, and focus on themes of Creativity, Family, On Da Road and from Local to Global.

Though off the usual tourist route, it is worth the trek to St. John's Wood to the Ben Uri Gallery. And while you are in the neighborhood you might just take a walk to the Beetles' Abbey Road studios or catch a wicket at the Oval. ■

Ben Uri Gallery and Museum, 108 A Boundary Road , London, NW 8 ORH, (0) 207 604 3991, www.benuri.org.uk, Closed Saturday

Using Israeli and Palestinian guides, tour group helps visitors 'experience the people'

By Maayan Jaffe/JNS.org

Visits of condolence is all we get from them. They squat at the Holocaust Memorial, they put on grave faces at the Wailing Wall, and they laugh behind the heavy curtains in their hotels," Israeli author Yehuda Amichai wrote in a poem about tourists visiting the Holy Land.

MEJDI Tours seeks to offer the antithesis of Amichai's image.

"We want people to get out of their buses and experience the people," says Aziz Abu Sarah, co-founder and CEO of the Arlington, Va.-headquartered company.

MEJDI, whose name translates to "honor and respect," was co-founded in 2009 by Abu Sarah, Scott Cooper, and Dr. Marc Gopin. Its mission is to change the face of tourism through a socially responsible business model that honors both clients and communities.

The group offers guided tours around the world, including in Washington, DC, that focus on conflict resolution through dialogue and understanding. In Washington, this means Republicans versus Democrats. In Israel, it means looking at the concurrent narratives of Israelis and Palestinians as a means of helping visitors understand the complexities of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Groups are paired with both Israeli and Palestinian tour guides for their trips, and they meet Jews and Arabs from across the country. In the same day, participants can meet with a Palestinian living in Hebron and a Jew from a Judea and Samaria community like Susya.

MEJDI's founders have extensive experience in peace work and deep ties to the Holy Land. That, Abu Sarah tells JNS.org, enables them to connect travelers with anyone they want access to: activists, leaders of religious and secular organizations, journalists, academics, settlers, soldiers, refugees, and Palestinian protesters.

CREDIT: UDI GOREN

MEJDI Tours visits Bethlehem

"Between the three of us, we know anyone you want to know," Abu Sarah says, noting that while all trips include culture and tourism fun and can involve high-end hotels and visits to the beach, they also include home hospitality and a snapshot of real life outside of the air-conditioned bus. Guides share their own stories, which adds a further dimension.

Liel Maghen, an Israeli tour guide from Jerusalem, says that since starting to work with MEJDI he has watched tourists open their minds, but also expanded his own knowledge.

"Every time I join a group, I learn something new about my life and my city," Maghen says. "My identity is more complete when I hear about the other narrative."

Maghen, who was raised in a staunchly pro-Israel family and then served in the Israeli army, said he offers an important perspective to tourists.

"If people are not Jewish, they often think Israelis are blinded, closed-mined," he tells JNS.org. "But I can show them, there is a complex process going on in Israeli society. No one is really black or white here. There is sometimes an instant of defensiveness, of canceling out the other's story, of not wanting to hear it. I think that is proof that there is a lack of confidence or security in your own narrative. When you are really confident, you can absorb and listen to other stories." Working with MEJDI "has given me the ability to question the things I want to improve, but also to be proud of my strengths," adds Maghen.

Palestinian tour guide Tamer Omari has a similar perspective. He says a lot of people have already made up their minds about whose side they are on when it comes to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"That approach is flawed," he says. "If you want to be pro anybody, you have to be pro everybody." Omari says the Israeli and Palestinian sides choose to focus on certain aspects of their history, and to ignore others.

"The narratives only collide because they choose not to stress the same things," he tells JNS.org.

Tours run by MEJDI offer many "wow moments" for participants, says Omari, recalling one trip in which a Jewish group was hosted by a Druze family in Beit Jann.

"When participants arrived, they said the place looked like an Arab village," he says. "They didn't expect their hosts to be Zionistic or Israeli. But they were very Zionistic. All their children had been in the army. They lost two sons to war."

Another group met with a woman living in a moshav near Gaza who talked about her relationship with an Arab woman on the other side of the border fence. During the tour, the Jewish woman called her Gazan friend, and they spoke together to the visiting group.

"It was very beautiful, very emotional," Omari says.

Pastor John Moyle of Oakbrook Church in Reston, Va., who has gone on three trips with MEJDI, says that on a recent tour, he met with Israeli and Palestinian families through the Parents Circle Families Forum, which brings together Jews and Arabs who have lost family members through the conflict and want to use their losses to work toward a different future.

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On Another Note

The Heartland Klezmorim

San Slomovits, staff writer

The Heartland Klezmorim, the fine klezmer band from the Lansing area, has a new CD, *Ikh Hob Dikh Tsufil Lib, I Love You Much Too Much*. The recording is their second, and it's the follow up to their 2011 debut, *Gut Morgn*. No sophomore slump this, instead there is plenty of evidence of growth. The most obvious example of the group's expansion is that in 2011 they were a quintet, now they are a sextet. Joining the original ensemble of David Klein on trumpet; Susanne Garber on violin; Drew Howard on banjo, mandolin, and dobro; Chris Hamilton on bass; and Ben Godoshian on percussion, is Will Metz on tenor sax. The new instrument fills a gap in the sonic range of the band, and gives the band an even greater palette of sounds and possibilities to work with in their arrangements. But Heartland Klezmorim has not only grown quantitatively in the past three years, they've also developed qualitatively and even changed somewhat stylistically.

Let's reassure Heartland Klezmorim fans right up front; no, they've not gone the route of some current klezmer bands who, in their attempts—misguided or not, it's all in the ear of the listener—to make the genre relevant to the 21st century, have all but abandoned the 19th and early 20th century roots of the music. Some groups have grafted or combined a wide—some would claim wild—range of distant, disparate styles with klezmer to produce offshoots that are, depending on your point of view, very interesting or merely bizarre.

The Heartland Klezmorim have also chosen not to go in another of the contemporary directions of klezmer music, one that emphasizes scholarship and the exploration of the relationship of klezmer with gypsy, or Rom music. Instead Heartland Klezmorim has, as on their first CD, continued to explore and immerse themselves in the style of klezmer that many of us heard for the first time in the klezmer revival of the 1970s; the uniquely American form of klezmer that was primarily created by the Eastern European musicians who came to the US in the late 19th, early 20th centuries and melded the traditional old world music they brought with them, with the exciting jazz sounds they heard in the new world. That vintage of klezmer was, like American popular music of the period, not monothematic, but also encompassed a variety of styles. Bandleader David Klein writes in an email, "Will Metz joined Heartland Klezmorim two years ago. He brought a wealth of experience to the group including klezmer, jazz, and blues. At that time, we started to expand our repertoire by including music from the Yiddish Theater as well as Yiddish swing. The new CD represents our new direction. We recorded old time klezmer as well as the swing tunes."

The Heartland Klezmorim

The new direction, however, still uses the same vehicles with which the Heartland Klezmorim mapped out their first CD. There is impeccable musicianship throughout; tight unison lines between the husband and wife team of Garber and Klein; fresh, inventive improvisations from Howard and Klein, and crisp rhythmic grooves from Hamilton and Godoshian. Oh, and they wisely stayed with the same artist, Kate Darnell, who did the cover of their first CD. Her work is the visual equivalent of an earworm—instantly recognizable and pleasing.

The CD kicks off with Boychik Bulgar the only original tune on the recording. It is a joyous *freylekh*, immediately identifiable as klezmer. Even before the melody enters, the rhythm section of bass, drums and banjo, establishes a groove that is exclusively the domain of klezmer. No other music can claim that sound. And the tune itself is so "in-the-pocket" of traditional klezmer music that until you read the back cover and discover that it was written by Chris Hamilton, the band's bassist, you could easily be forgiven for assuming it's a klezmer standard of the 1920s. This is a good thing.

There is an appropriately slinky, sinuous version of the ever-popular Miserlou – there's a reason this tune is so widely and wildly admired. It is the epitome of an earworm, and Garber's violin and Howard's banjo make it even more memorable.

The album also includes the mysteriously titled 7:40. Klein writes, "The song I believe has its origins from Odessa. 7:40 is 7:40 AM and is the time a specific train was leaving a train station. As people were waiting for the train, they would do a dance to this melody. I heard this story from an ethnomusicologist at a conference. How true the story is I'm not sure." True story or not, in HK's version the track starts off with a *doina*-like sleepiness, but when the rhythm kicks in, the tune sounds like a great way to start any day, even a work day.

Expectation is a beautiful Russian waltz HK learned from one of their primary mentors, the great Pete Sokolow, one of the early leaders of the klezmer revival of the 70s. As Klein says, "Pete is a total *mentsh*," and HK's version pays proper tribute to him.

There are several other traditional klezmer pieces on the album, but there is also a sampling from the work of four of the biggest names in American klezmer, Yiddish theater composers, Abe Ellstein, Alexander Olshanetsky and Sholom Seconda, and the klezmer clarinetist, Naftule Brandwein, who along with Dave Tarras influenced almost every clarinetist and instrumentalist who followed them.

Heartland Klezmorim treat all these songs and tunes with the respect and reverence due to them, and so their arrangements sound not greatly unlike what they might have sounded like in the Big Apple or the Borsht Belt of the first half of the 20th century. But they've also made them their own and brought them into the here and now. ■

Best Reads

Keret's writing uncanny, brilliant, and often profound

Rachel Urist, staff writer

The title story of Etgar Keret's collection, *Suddenly, A Knock On The Door* is about telling stories on demand. The narrator, also named Keret, faces the barrel of a gun. He's cornered. In a cross between pathos and comedy, Keret whines, "I bet things like this never happen to Amos Oz or David Grossman." Intruders enter, one after another, each one armed, each demanding a story. Each new story is interrupted—and propelled—by the words: "Suddenly there's a knock on the door." But there really is a knock on the door, each and every time.

Early in this story we read: "The last time anyone asked me to tell him a story, it was my son. That was a year ago. I told him something about a fairy and a ferret—I don't even remember what exactly—and within two minutes he was fast asleep. But the situation is fundamentally different. Because my son doesn't have a beard, or a pistol. Because my son asked for the story nicely, and this man is simply trying to rob me of it."

In the second story, "Lieland," a man dreams about his dead mother and a gumball machine. He remembers that the first lie he told was to his mother. Past lies begin to materialize as threatening figures. "Who are you?" asks the frightened narrator. "I'm your first lie," says the scary phantasm. The story has such trademark sentences as: "An overzealous policeman with a yarmulke insisted on detaining them and checking their papers, but in the end, the person who helped was Natanya. They found her feeding the litter from his most recent lie."

In staggering bursts of images, Keret melds dreams with reality. Strange, even impossible things happen regularly. The author's flights of fancy stun the reader with their insistent power and wild juxtapositions. There's the killer who, at age fourteen, for reasons of conscience, became a lifelong vegetarian. Later, he adopts a boy from Darfur. He's a killer with compassion. There's the hemorrhoid that reminds its host, with every painful bowel movement, that to live is to suffer. There's the group of strangers invited to an intimate birthday party. Each guest is known by a verbal semaphore: Mustache, Eyebrows, Band-Aid. There's a talking goldfish.

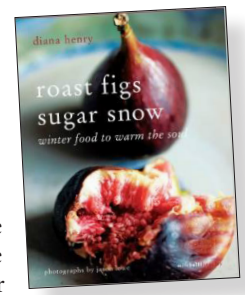
The stories are short, often just two or three pages. Invariably, a baffling metaphor is introduced. By the end, its significance is clear. To get a sense of the unique and quirky images at the heart of Keret's writing, along with his astonishing, quicksilver, stream of associations that almost overwhelm the reader's consciousness, think of Robin Williams. Keret's rush of ideas and connections is uncanny—and brilliant. Like Williams, Keret is unpredictable and often profound. True, there is a fragmentary quality to some of the stories. One reviewer, after rhapsodizing over these stories, added that some of the stories "come off as half-finished thought experiments." But the whole is so original that such slips are easily overlooked.

The American novelist, Nathan Englander, is one of three writers who served as translators for the stories in this collection. Other writers weigh in with praise for Keret's writing. Those writers include Salman Rushdie, Yann Martel, Amos Oz, Gary Shteyngart, and Jonathan Safran Foer. Keret was awarded the 2010 Chevalier of France's Order of Arts and Letters; and at Cannes, in 2007, he won the Camera d'Or prize for *Jellyfish*, the movie he directed and co-wrote with his wife, Shira Geffen. Keret, born in 1967, has forged a bright career. I thank him for the sudden knock on my door. ■

A *haymish* and *hygge* Sukkot

Mary Bilyeu, staff writer

In Chicago last month, I ate at Milt's Barbecue for the Perplexed. It's a kosher restaurant that serves a mix of classic dishes—fried green tomatoes, brisket, brownies—as well as contemporary ones like an assortment of sliders. (Sliders are having their moment in the spotlight, just as cupcakes and macarons recently have.) Sure, pickles are served as you peruse the menu. But instead of the usual old and new varieties that you find at delis, there are brightly flavored house-made bread-and-butter pickles. Not quite what you're accustomed to at either a barbecue joint or a Jewish restaurant, but still familiar.



Such is the way things are when you're away from home, isn't it? You may visit a city you've been to countless times, spend time with family or friends you haven't seen in awhile. Things have changed. People and things are similar but different. You can't go home again, as they say.

At Milt's, as I noted the other diners, I saw that some of the young men wore tzitzit and some of the women covered their hair. There's a hand-washing station. The tablecloths resemble a tallis, white with stripes. The restaurant's logo is fashioned after a mezuzah.

I wasn't at home, but I felt right at home.

And this brings me, in my often-roundabout way, to Sukkot. And to sukkot.

Your sukkah may be in your back yard, at home. But you're not really at home, with all the accustomed conveniences and comforts, when you eat dinner in it or sleep there (weather permitting), are you? At the same time, you decorate it, make it festive, make it special ... you make it feel homey.

As we build our sukkot and plan for meals and gatherings in them, we strive for a home away from home. We seek warmth in the *haymish* sense, as well as physical warmth as the cool, and sometimes cold, weather comes.

Food, of course, can help with both of these.

Diana Henry, beloved in Britain, writes poetically as she offers sophisticated comfort food to readers of her cookbooks and of her articles in *The Sunday Telegraph* and other publications. When fruits are described in a chapter entitled "The Color Purple," you find yourself enthralled by her words and transported into the scene, and table, she sets:

"For a bit of dark, seductive glamor in the cold months, I turn to plums, figs, and sour little black damson plums. The misty bloom of their skins, the spectrum of colors they encompass - purple, black, dark blue, amber, and russet—and the texture of those skins, somewhere between velvet and suede, echo the softer fabrics we begin to wear once September arrives. I'm drawn to their rich, purplish blotches of color: study them through half-closed eyes, and it looks as though they've been drawn in smudgy pastels."

Henry's second book, *Roast Figs Sugar Snow: Food to Warm the Soul*, originally published in 2009, was updated and reissued last month with a greater focus upon American-style recipes. It is a beautiful work dedicated to the colder months, and to the foods best suited to them. The dishes she presents gradually escort us from the pumpkins and cranberries of fall into the chestnuts and roasts of winter, with many baked goods offered, as well.

Northern countries—Denmark, Austria, France, and others—and their cuisines and traditions are featured. There are the foods of Henry's childhood home in Northern Ireland, such as Dublin Coddle and Irish Stew. But there are also dishes from others' homelands, to which she has traveled: Quebec, Russia, Sweden, and Hungary. She "soon realized what a great hunting ground these countries are for a British cook. They all use much the same basic fall and winter produce as we do ... but their flavor combinations are different."

Sukkot, coming in the fall—just at the end of the summer bounty as farms, gardens, and markets transition from cucumbers and corn to pears and potatoes—is a perfect holiday for beautiful fruits and vegetables. Winter squash shines, in flavor and color, against a backdrop of green lentils in an autumn salad. Apples continue to invite a sweet new year with sugar and cream. Plums offer a sweet-tart treat to accompany hot coffee or tea, or perhaps a rich cup of cocoa. Any, or all, of these dishes would provide warmth to your sukkah, your home away from home during the holiday.

Henry writes, "The Scandinavians seem to be much better at dealing with cold dark months than we are. The Danes in particular get great succor from food in the fall and winter. Hunkering down in a café filled with candlelight to eat a cardamom-scented pastry with a big mug of coffee is what they describe as '*hygge*' [pronounced HOO-guh], an untranslatable term meaning: 'cozy, warming, life-affirming.'"

May your sukkah be *haymish* and *hygge* ... like home. ■

Roast winter squash salad with lentils

Warm winter squash is a surprisingly successful salad ingredient. The big golden wedges look beautiful and make a good partner for all kinds of salty, earthy ingredients.

3 pounds butternut and/or acorn squash
salt and pepper
olive oil
2 tablespoons butter
9 ounces goat cheese, broken into small nuggets

For the lentils:

9 3/4 ounces green lentils, Puy or Umbrian
1/2 small onion, very finely chopped
1 small celery stalk, very finely chopped
1 tablespoon butter
1/2 tablespoon olive oil
1 1/2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

For the dressing:

1/2 tablespoon white wine vinegar
tiny dollop Dijon mustard
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
good pinch sugar

Preheat the oven to 350°.

Halve the squash and scoop out the seeds and fibers. Cut each half into 1-inch wedges and then peel each one. You should have about 2 pounds of prepared flesh.

Put the squash wedges in a roasting pan, season, drizzle with olive oil, and dot with butter. Roast in the preheated oven for 15 to 20 minutes, turning the wedges over in the fat from time to time until the squash is just tender. Don't let it scorch or get too dry.

Prepare the lentils while the squash is cooking. Rinse, then cover them with cold water; bring to a boil, and cook until tender, which can take anything from 15 to 30 minutes. The lentils should hold their shape, so keep checking them. While the lentils are cooking, gently sauté the onion and celery in the butter and oil until they are soft but not colored.

Make the dressing by whisking all the ingredients together. Season.

When the lentils are cooked, add them to the pan of onion and celery and stir them around to soak up the cooking juices. Add two-thirds of the dressing and the chopped parsley and season really well with salt and pepper.

Put a small mound of lentils on each plate and top with the roast squash, cut into cubes if you prefer. Dot with the nuggets of goat cheese, drizzle each plate with the remaining dressing, and serve.

Serves 6.

Peasant girls in a mist

The name of this old-fashioned dessert, which both Norway and Denmark lay claim to, always makes me think of Scandinavian children out gathering apples in their aprons. It's also known as "Veiled Farm Girls" and "Peasant Girls in a Veil"; I suppose the veil and mist both refer to the blanket of cream.

2 large cooking apples
3 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
3 1/2 ounces wheat and rye bread, pulsed into bread crumbs
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 1/2 cup heavy cream
1/4 cup confectioners' sugar
1 1/2 tablespoons toasted hazelnuts, very coarsely chopped

Peel and core the apples and cut them into chunks. Put them in a saucepan with the sugar and 2 tablespoons water and cook over low heat until they are completely tender. Stir every so often and mash the fruit down coarsely with the back of a wooden spoon. Check for sweetness—I prefer it not too sweet as it is being mixed with sweet cream and breadcrumbs—and put it into a bowl to cool.

Melt the butter in a skillet and add the breadcrumbs and the brown sugar. Sauté, stirring constantly, over medium heat until the breadcrumbs are golden. Add the cinnamon and continue to cook for about a minute. Let cool.

Whip the cream, adding the confectioners' sugar, then layer the stewed apples, bread crumbs, and whipped cream mixture in a glass bowl, ending with a layer of cream. Scatter with the chopped hazelnuts.

Serves 4 to 6.

Café Sperl's plum squares

Both yeasted and unyeasted versions of these glossy crimson squares exist, but I like these best. The recipe is based on the one they use at the glorious Café Sperl in Vienna.

2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup butter
3/4 cup + 2 tablespoons sugar
salt
1 egg yolk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/2 pounds plums
1 cup red currant or apricot jelly

Preheat the oven to 350°.

Put the flour and butter into a food processor with a plastic blade attachment. Process until the mixture resembles bread crumbs. Add the sugar and salt and mix again. Add the yolk and vanilla and keep the machine running until the mixture forms into a ball of pastry—you shouldn't need any more liquid, but you can add a drop of very cold water if the pastry isn't coming together. Seal in plastic wrap and chill for 30 minutes.

Halve the plums and remove the pits. If they're small, leave them as they are, but large ones should be quartered. Press the pastry into a baking pan measuring 8 x 12 inches. Arrange the plums on top in rows, pressing them lightly into the pastry. Sprinkle with the granulated sugar and bake in the preheated oven for 45 minutes.

Let cool completely, then, melt the jelly in a pan with a little water. Spoon the glaze on top of the plums and let them set, then cut into squares.

Makes 16 to 20, depending on how you cut them up.

October 2014

Wednesday 1

Mahj: TBE. Off-site. 1–3 p.m.

Shalom Gever: TBE. 4:30–8:30 p.m.

Hebrew 100: TBE. 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Thursday 2

Thursdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. Callanetics with Diane Dahl featuring muscle firming through stretching exercises synchronized to music. $12/members; $14/non-members. 9:30 a.m. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar for low impact exercise in supportive environment. $4 per session or 3 sessions per month for $10; 10 a.m. Homemade dairy lunch buffet. $3 per person; Noon. JCC Adult Programs' monthly birthday celebrations. For information, contact Leah Zaas at leahz@jfsannarbor.org or at 769-0209, or phone the JCC at 971-0990. *Thursdays.*

"Ukranian Spaces, Jewish Memories, Women's Lives: Local Soviet Past in the Global Post-Soviet Russian Fiction:" Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Presented by Frankel Institute Fellow, Mikhail Krutikov. 202 South Thayer, Room 2022. For information, visit www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/events. 12:15 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. Easy and oldies from 7:30–8:30 p.m. Intermediate and requests from 8:30–10 p.m. $5 per class. Students and children free. Learn the latest Israeli dances, line dances, mixers and more. Families welcome. For information, contact Laura at a2rikud@gmail.com, phone 395-4223, or visit www.a2rikud.org. *Thursdays.*

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 3

Erev Yom Kippur – Kol Nidre: BIC. Kol Nidre at 6:40 p.m. 6th–8th Grade Service and 9th–12th Grade Service held at GSAC at 2010 Washtenaw Avenue at 6:40 p.m. There will be an opportunity for meditation 10 minutes after the Kol Nidre Services at GSAC.

Kol Nidre: Jewish Cultural Society. Gather to observe Erev Yom Kippur for opportunities for individual reflection and to listen to the haunting melody of Kol Nidre. Register online at jewishculturalsociety.org or email info@jewishculturalsociety.org. At the JCC. 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur: Chabad. Evening Services. 7:15 p.m.

Kol Nidre Service with Kol Halev: TBE. Pease Auditorium at Eastern Michigan University. Tickets required. For information, phone TBE office at 665-4744. 8–10 p.m.

AARTY Kol Nidre Service: TBE. For students in Grades 9–12. Service with traditional elements as well as creative components designed especially by and for high school students. No tickets required. Students may be dropped off for pre-service dessert and socializing beginning at 7 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 4

Yom Kippur: BIC. Shaharit Services at 8 a.m. Children's Programs for K-5th Grade and 6th to 8th Grade at 10:30 a.m. Yizkor memorial service at 11 a.m. Study session at 4 p.m. Mincha service at 4:45 p.m. Neilah closing service at approximately 6:20 p.m. Break the Fast with light refreshments at 7:45 p.m.

Yom Kippur: JCS. Consider how our actions affect the greater community and look inside ourselves to see how we can make a difference. Register online at jewishculturalsociety.org or email info@jewishculturalsociety.org. At the JCC. Program and services at 2 p.m. At 6 p.m., bring a non-meat dish to share to Break the Fast together.

Yom Kippur: Chabad. Morning Service at 9:45 a.m. Yizkor Memorial Services at 12:30 p.m. Afternoon/Evening Services at 5:15 p.m.

Yom Kippur: TBE. Family Service with Youth Choir from 9–10:15 a.m. Traditional Service with Kol Halev from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Tickets required for both services and both will be held at Pease Auditorium at Eastern Michigan University. Afternoon Torah Study in the sanctuary from 2:30–3:15 p.m. Afternoon Service, beginning with special music and readings and followed by Generations After service, led by TBE children and relatives of Holocaust survivors and victims from 3:30–4:30 p.m. Yizkor/Neilah at approximately 5:30 p.m. followed by Break-the-Fast from 5:30–7:30 p.m., sponsored by TBE Sisterhood.

Shabbat services: *See listing at tend of calendar.*

Sunday 5

Sukkah Construction: BIC. 9 a.m.

Family Salon–Apple Pickin' Kids: JCC and Jewish Federation. Pick apples to donate to Food Gatherers. Wasem Fruit Farm, 6580 Judd Road, Milan. First bag picked is paid for by JCC and Jewish Federation to be donated to help hungry kids. Apples, cider, donuts and tours available. RSVP to 677-0100 or email Cindy@jewishannarbor.com. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and discover the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Sunday Minyan: BIC. Sunday Minyan time moves to 5 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Monday 6

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. *Mondays..*

Shalom Gever: TBE. 4:30–8:30 p.m.

Youth Choir: TBE. 5:40–6 p.m.

Sukkot Dinner and Service: TBE Brotherhood. 7–8 p.m.

"Perspectives on the Promotion of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health:" JCC. Talk presented by Dr. Kate Rosenblum on the impact of early adverse experiences on brain and social-emotional development, and interventions that work and promote better outcomes for very young children and their families. For information, email karenfreedland@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 7

Tuesdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. Callanetics with Diane Dahl featuring muscle firming through stretching exercises synchronized to music. $12/members; $14/non-members. 9:30 a.m. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar with low impact exercise in a supportive environment. $4 per session or 3 monthly sessions for $10. 10 a.m. Homemade dairy lunch buffet. $3 per person; Noon. Games and activities including mahjong and quilting, including making quilts for children of Mott Hospital; 1 p.m. For information, contact Leah Zaas at leahz@jfsannarbor.org or by phone at 769-0209, or phone the JCC at 971-0990. *Tuesdays.*

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Yiddish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): 1:30 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Hebrew 104: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Hebrew: 103. 6–7 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 8

"Enlightened Memory? On Remembering the Jewish Past in Contemporary Germany and Poland:" Frankel Center. Presented by Michael Meng of Clemson University. UM School of Social work Building, 1080 South University, Room 1636. For information, see www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/events. Noon.

Hebrew 100: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Sukkot Services: Chabad. Afternoon/Evening services at 6:45 p.m.

Maariv: BIC. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 9

Thursdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Sukkot Shaharit: BIC. Followed by Kiddush luncheon. 9:30 a.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Maariv: BIC. 7:30 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Friday 10

Sukkot Shaharit: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Rabbi's Lunch and Learn: TBE. 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Mincha and Maariv: BIC. 6:45 p.m.

Sukkot Services: Chabad. Afternoon/Evening services. 6:45 p.m.

Shabbat Services for Young Families: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6:00 p.m. Tot dinner at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle Oneg follows. Shabbat Service and Anniversary/Birthday Shabbat. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 11

Sukkot Fall Retreat: AARC. Weekend shabbaton open to all community members featuring Sukkot -themed workshops, creative services, communal meals, and activities for all ages including hiking, music, games, dancing, yoga and thoughtful discussions. Held at the Emrich Center, Brighton. For information or to make a reservation, visit www.aarecon.org or leave a message at 445-1910. *Through October 13.*

Torah Study with Rabbi: TBE. 8:50 a.m.

Shabbat Morning Service: AARC. Participative community service integrates traditional liturgy with music, chanting and contemporary English readings, including Torah service and discussion. Led by Rabbi Michal Woll. For information, phone 845-2361 or email ravmichal@aarecon.org. Held at the JCC. 10 a.m.–Noon.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10–11:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

New Member Kiddush Luncheon: BIC. Noon.

Sustainable Sukkot: JCS, JCC and Jewish Federation. Community-wide harvest celebration. Fun, family-friendly, casual potluck to explore Sukkot. Share favorite foods and recipes representing our diverse cultures. Decorate a "green" harvest house sukkah and enjoy interactive presentations and crafts for kids. At the JCC. For information, contact Jewish Cultural Society at info@jewishculturalsociety.org. 4–7 p.m.

Bernhardt on Broadway: The Musical: Dexter Center for the Arts. Starring longtime Ann Arbor resident Carol Dunitz. 2200 North Parker Road, Dexter. $28.50/general admission; $24.50/seniors. 7:30 p.m. *Also October 12.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at tend of calendar.*

Sunday 12

Planning Session: BIC Men's Club. 9:30 a.m.

Gan Katan: BIC. 9:45 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Krav Maga Segment 2: JCC. Learn techniques to survive violent or aggressive encounters, including knife defense techniques, gun disarming, getting out of chokes and holds, hand-to-hand defenses, surviving on the ground, and proper psychology to be used during aggressive encounter. Primary goal of class is survival. For information, contact karenfreedland@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. Sundays. *Through November 9.*

Bernhardt on Broadway: The Musical: Dexter Center for the Arts. 2 p.m. *See October 11.*

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6–7 p.m.

Book Club: AARC. Meets every 4-6 weeks at members' homes. This evening's meeting will focus on the short story by Rebbe Nachman of Breslov, *The Seven Beggars,* which is available online at no cost. For information including meeting location, contact Jon Sweeney at johnsweeney@gmail.com. 7–9 p.m.

Spotlight Series: BIC. David and Helen Aminoff present, "Our Trip to Uzbekistan: In Search of Our Roots" 7:30 p.m.

Monday 13

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. *Mondays. See October 6.*

Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–8:30 p.m.

Youth Choir: TBE. 5:40–6 p.m.

Soup in the Sukkah: Jewish Women's Circle. Presented by Esther Goldstein, at her home, in the Sukkah if weather permits. $10/donation. Reserve a space via email to esther@jewmich.com.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Men's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain: JCC. This program has enabled millions of people around the world to learn to draw. Introduction to the technique and learn to produce works that demonstrate its effectiveness. Instructor Suzanne Rockind will lead the class in this popular method. Materials included in the price. Two-session class. For information, email karenfreedland@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. *Also October 20.*

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Tuesday 14

Tuesdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. *Tuesdays. See October 7.*

Yiddish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): 1:30 p.m. *Tuesdays. See September 2.*

Hebrew 104: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Hebrew: 103. 6–7 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 15

Hashanah Rabbah: Chabad. Morning services. Everyone receives bunch of willows for the services. Held at Hillel, 1429 Hill Street. 7:20 a.m.

Mahj: TBE. Off-site. 1–3 p.m.

Hebrew 100: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Pizza in the Hut: BIC. 6 p.m.

Simchat Torah Dinner, Torah Study and Service: TBE. 6:30–8 p.m.

Shmini Atzeret Services: Chabad. Afternoon/Evening services. Special Shmini Arzeret Dancing with the Torah. 6:45 p.m.

Shmini Atzeret Maariv: BIC. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 16

Shmini Atzeret Services: Chabad. Afternoon/Evening services. 6:45 p.m.

Sinchat Torah: Chabad. All night dancing. 7:30 p.m.

Shmini Atzeret Shaharit: BIC. 9:30 p.m.

Thursdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Sukkot Service and Lunch: TBE. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Mincha: BIC. 6:45 p.m.

Simchat Torah Maariv and Hakafot: BIC. 7 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Friday 17

Simchat Torah Shaharit: BIC. 8:30 a.m.

International Shul of Pancakes: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Simchat Torah Services and Lunch: Chabad. Morning services with Torah dancing, followed by annual Simchat Torah deli lunch. 9:45 a.m.

Torah Reading and Hakafot: BIC. 10:15 a.m.

Rabbi's Lunch and Learn: TBE. 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Mincha and Maariv: BIC. 6:30 p.m.

Simchat Torah Services: Chabad. Afternoon/Evening services. 6:45 p.m.

Shabbat Services for Young Families: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6:00 p.m. Tot dinner at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle Oneg follows. Shabbat Service/New Member and Double Chai at 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 18

Torah Study with Rabbi: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Sixth Grade Shabbat Morning with the Rabbis: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Baby Shabbat: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah: TBE. 10–11:30 a.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at tend of calendar.*

Sunday 19

New Member Biking and Brunch: TBE. Off-site. 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Sukkah Deconstruction: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Torah Celebration: BIC BIRS. 10:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Legacy of the Land Tour–Focus on Farmland: AARC and Pardes Hannah. Washtenaw County tour showcasing local efforts to preserve green space surrounding urban areas. Learn about efforts to preserve and save family farms and farmland from development for agricultural use, wildlife habitat and clean water. $20/person, includes lunch. Meet at REI, 970 West Eisenhower Parkway. For information email info@aarecon.org or leave a message at 445-1910. 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Sukkah Tear-Down: TBE. 3–5 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Monday 20

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. *Mondays.*

Shalom Gever: TBE. 4:30–8:30 p.m.

Youth Choir: TBE. 5:40–6 p.m.

[E]met: An Honest Conversation About Death: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 21

Tuesdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. *Tuesdays. See October 7.*

Yiddish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): 1:30 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Hebrew 104: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Hebrew: 103: TBE. 6–7 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 22

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Noon

Hebrew 100: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

"Jewish Poland: A Materialized Settlement and a Metaphysical Landscape in Jewish Legends:" Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Presented by Haya Bar-Itzhak, Shusterman Visiting Israeli Scholar, University of Haifa. 202 South Thayer, Room 2022. For information, visit www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/events. 4 p.m.

Shalom Gever: TBE. 4:30–8:30 p.m.

Hebrew 100: TBE. 5:30–6:30 p.m.

J Poets Society and Writers Group: JCC. This group is for poets and writers to come together to exchange ideas and develop their work. Led by Vivianne Shnitze. Three monthly meetings with December meeting hosting a poetry slam. 7–8:30 p.m. For information, contact karenfreedland@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. *Also November 19 and December 10.*

Board Meeting: BIC. 8 p.m.

Youth Choir: TBE. 5:40–6 p.m.

As Community Needs Change Throughout the Year, JFS is Here.

Our Services:

- *Older Adult Services*
- *Partners in Care Concierge*
- *Counseling Services*
- *Crisis Management*
- *Employment Services*
- *Jewish Family Life Education*
- *International Services*
- *Transportation*

New Moms Group is a place to talk about relevant parenting issues, meet other new moms and form lasting friendships. Most appropriate for moms with babies 0-12 months. Bring your baby. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Contact: Sarah Schneider Hong (734) 769-0209 or sarah.hong@jfsannarbor.org

SAVE THE DATE!

JFS@UMS 2015 CLAIRE AND ISADORE BERNSTEIN AWARD EVENT, HONORING PHIL & NANCY MARGOLIS.
SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015
from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Rackham Auditorium
More details to come in the November issue!

Issues for Aging - Driving: Staying Safe and Knowing When to Stop
Thursday, October 23, 2014
7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. at the JCC
RSVP: sarah.hong@jfsannarbor.org

International Holiday Party
Friday, December 12, 2014
Cobblestone Farms
More details coming soon!

Kids Care Fair
Sunday, March 15, 2015
Travis Pointe Country Club
More details coming soon!

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Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Thursday 23

Thursdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Dinner: TBE Brotherhood. 6–7:30 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Friday 24

Rabbi's Lunch and Learn: TBE. Informal discussion. Participants are welcome to bring lunch. 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Afternoon Delights: JCC. Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra chamber recital music concerts. Symphony musicians and guests play freshly minted pieces along with time-honored classics. Hour-long concerts preceded by dessert and coffee at 1 p.m. Concerts begin at 1:30 p.m. For information, contact karenfreedland@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990.

Shabbat Services for Young Families: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m. Tot dinner at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle Oneg follows. Shabbat Service and Consecration at 7:30 p.m.

Fourth Friday Shabbat: AARC. Musical Kabbalat Shabbat services are held at the JCC and are led by Rabbi Michal Woll. Services followed by a vegetarian potluck dinner. Pizza nosh for children before services at 6 p.m. and childcare provided during services from 6:30–7:45 p.m. Reservations requested for pizza and childcare. Leave a message at 445-1910 or email info@aarecon.org. 6:30–10 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 25

Torah Study with Rabbi: TBE. 8:50 a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. 9 a.m.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10–11:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at tend of calendar.*

Sunday 26

"The Shtetl in the Museum: Depicting Jews in the Soviet Union and in Russia Today:" Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Presented by Deborah Yalen, Louis and Helen Padnos Visiting Professor in Judaic Studies. Held in Grand Rapids at Temple Emanuel, 1715 Fulton Street East. For information, see www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/events. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Art Reception: JCC. Art reception featuring the art of students of the Leslie Masters Studio, many of whom are active JCC members. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments available. For information, contact karenfreedland@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 4–6 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Evenings in the Library with Authors: TBE. Tonight's author is Josh Malerman. 6–7:30 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Monday 27

"The Fourth Book of Maccabees: Greek Philosophy Meets Jewish Law (and Christian Martyrology):" Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Presented by Tessa Rajak of the University of Reading. Held in room 2175 in UM's Angell Hall at 435 South State Street. For information, see www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/events. 4 p.m.

Shalom Gever: TBE. 4:30–8:30 p.m.

Youth Choir: TBE. 5:40–6 p.m.

Men's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 28

Tuesdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. *Tuesdays. See October 7.*

Chuck Newman–Adult Show and Tell: JCC. Yiddish Festival Event. Bring an object or photo pertaining to some aspect of Yiddish culture or about individuals who grew up speaking Yiddish and tell the story of the object or photo. The community is also invited to come and enjoy the stories. Held in the Newman Lounge. 11 a.m.

Yiddishn Ta'am (Yiddish Taste) Lunch: JCC. Yiddish Festival Event. $8 per person. Newman Lounge. To register, phone 971-0990. Noon.

Yiddish Readers Circle–*Vos iz dos*? JCC. Yiddish Festival Event. Special program featuring reading of a short story by Sholem Aleichem, with English translation and transliteration, followed by a Yiddish sing-along and interactive Yiddish-themed activities. For all ages and all levels of Yiddish knowledge. Newman Lounge. 12:30 p.m.

Yiddish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): 1:30 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Hebrew 104: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Hebrew: 103. 6–7 p.m.

Yiddish Film: JCC. Yiddish Festival Event. Showing of *Grine Felder* (Green Fields), with special guest speaker Maya Barzilai, Assistant Professor of Modern Hebrew and Jewish Culture in UM's Department of Near Eastern Studies and the Frankel Center. Hebrew Day School's Klez Kids will perform immediately before the showing in the Newman Lounge. $5 per person. To register, phone 971-0990. 7 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 29

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Noon.

Shalom Gever: TBE. 4:30–8:30 p.m.

Hebrew 100: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Youth Choir: TBE. 5:40–6 p.m.

Yiddish Film: Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Yiddish Film Festival Event. Showing of *The Last Klezmer: The Life and Music of Leopold Kozlowski,* featuring special guest speaker, Yale Strom, the filmmaker. Strom is a director, composer, musician, writer and photographer who has directed eight award-winning documentary films and has composed music for many others. *The Last Klezmer* was short-listed for an Academy Award and broke previous box office records at Lincoln Center's prestigious Walter Reade Theatre. UM Museum of Art (UMMA) Stern Auditorium, 525 South State Street. For information, see www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/events. 7 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Thursday 30

Thursdays at the JCC: JCC Adult Programs. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Tasty Traditional Fare–*Ess Gezunterhait*: JCC. Yiddish Festival Event. $8 per person. Newman Lounge. To register, phone 971-0990. Noon.

Chaverim B'Shirim Concert: JCC. Yiddish Festival Event. Excerpts from Itzik Manger's Di Megile. 12:30 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Yiddish Film: JCC. Yiddish Film Festival Event. Showing of *Yidl Mitn Fidl,* with special guest speaker Jeff Veidlinger, Joseph Brodsky Collegiate Professor of History and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. Veidlinger is an expert in modern Russian and Eastern European Jewish history and was named a "Top Young Historian" by the History News Network in 2006. Newman Lounge. $5 per person. To register, phone 971-0990. 7 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Beyond Pentateuch: The Rest of the Hebrew Bible: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Thursdays. See October 2.*

Friday 31

Rabbi's Lunch and Learn: TBE. 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Shabbat Learning: TBE. With Alex Cicelsky. 5:30 p.m.

Shabbat Services for Young Families: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6:00 p.m. Adult Dinner with Alex Cicelsky and Tot dinner at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle Oneg follows. Shabbat Service with Kol Halev at 7:30 p.m.

Eastern European Shabbat Dinner: BIC. Yiddish Film Festival Event. Dinner by Chef Cari Kosher Catering. $18 per person. Must RSVP and pay in advance. To register, phone 665-9897. 7 p.m.

Guest Speaker: BIC. Yiddish Festival Event. Presentation by Samuel Norich on "Yiddish 'With a Complete Faith.'" Norich is publisher of the Yiddish *Forverts* and the English *Forward* and has served as chief executive of The Forward Association since 1997. He is also author of "What Will Bind Us Now: A Report on the Institutional Ties Between Israel and American Jewry," and was executive director of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research from 1982 to 1992. 8:15 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call 994-9258 in advance to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation. 6:15 p.m. at the JCC the fourth Friday each month. Musical Shabbat service followed by vegetarian potluck. Pizza nosh for the kids at 6:00 p.m. Childcare provided during the service. All are welcome to attend. For information, call 975-6527, email mamacohen@comcast.net, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candle-lighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call 662-5805 for information. Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. UM Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. Morning childcare from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services: AA Reconstructionist Congregation. Morning services held the second Saturday of each month at the JCC from 10 a.m.–noon integrating traditional liturgy with music, chanting and contemporary readings including Torah service and discussion. A morning of songs and text study takes place the first Saturday of each month. For info, email info@aarecon.org or call 913-9705 or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Friday night services at Shabbat candle lighting time. Saturday morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown. Call 995-3276 for Home Hospitality and Meals for Shabbat and Jewish Holidays.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study with Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Delson and lay leaders at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744

UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

October 3	6:51 p.m.
October 10	6:39 p.m.
October 17	6:28 p.m.
October 24	6:18 p.m.
October 31	6:08 p.m.

Vitals

Mazel tov

Elana Heaney, on her bat mitzvah, October 18.
Shoshana Leflein on her bat mitzvah, October 25.
Etan and Krin Klein on the birth of their son, Yoav Maxwell Klein, also grandson of Steven and Shira Klein.
Robert and Mimi Weisberg on the marriage of their daughter, Kelsey, to Joseph Shulan.
Larry and Roberta Tankanow on the marriage of their daughter, Alyse, to Joseph Cohen.
Susan and David Gitterman on the marriage of their daughter Lizzy to Daniel Bigham, August 24.
Susan and David Gitterman on the birth of their granddaughter, Sarah, September 4.

Condolences

The family of Dr. William Martel on his death, August 10.
The family of Khova Gonik on her death, August 16.
Alan Mellow on the death of his mother, Eve Mellow, August 16.
Sandra Finkel on the death of her mother, Shirley Finkel, August 21.
Ruth Foster on the death of her son, Michael Foster, August 25.
Wendy Lawrence, on the death of her brother, Richard Wiseman, August 18.
Edward Powsner, on the death of his wife, Rhoda Powsner, August 21.
Martha Weintraub, on the death of her mother, Louise Weintraub, September 1.
Joyce Gerber, on the death of her mother, Sarah Schneider.

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Israel travel, continued from page 24

"This is one example of the power of hearing the narrative from both sides. They are both hurt, both of their lives have changed forever," says Moyle, who since his first MEJDI tour has become deeply involved with Israel. He describes MEJDI Tours as "flexible," its founders as "connected and networked," and its concept as "world-changing."

"They are not doing tours for the sake of people just having a great time—though you do have a great time," Moyle says. "But there is something deeper and greater going on there. They are helping people understand that the world is deeper, more complex. And in the process, they are trying to make the world a better place."

What do MEJDI tour guides think about the chances for a resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

"Of course there is a chance for peace. If not, I wouldn't be doing this," says Omari, who besides for working with MEJDI runs Heartbeat.fm, an initiative that unites Israeli and Palestinian youth musicians. "Freedom and equality will be here [in the Middle East], but we have to work toward it. … We have to remember, the truth is in the words of the people on the street, not the media."

Maghen says, "The most important thing is to create interactions between people, to allow them to work together as equals. Peace does not happen between governments, but between people." ■

Maayan Jaffe is a freelance writer in Overland Park, Kan. Reach her at maayanjaffe@icloud.com or follow her on Twitter, @MaayanJaffe.

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4:00 pm • Wine and Hors d'oeuvres Reception
5:30 pm • Program Begins
7:00 pm • Dessert Reception

Kosher under supervision

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Register online at www.jewishannarbor.org
or call Cindy Adams at 734-677-0100.
Please respond by October 12.

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